



Burrito Run

UNO athletics and Qdoba Mexican Grill will host a 5k burrito run

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gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Calendar of Events

Omaha's event lineup for
September

ENTERTAINMENT
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VOLUME 09 | ISSUE 4

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

UNO receives top tier ranking in U.S. News & World Report

EMILY JOHNSON
ASSISTANT SECTION EDITOR

UNO earned a first-tier regional best ranking of 71 out of 572 universities in the 2010 edition of "America's Best Colleges," published by U.S. News & World Report.

UNO established itself in the top 50 percent of schools that compose the top-tier with a composite score of 38. UNO also ranked 18th among public master's schools in the Midwest region, and was pegged 131st of 183 for best undergraduate business programs in a national specialty ranking.

"Certainly, the college experience consists of a host of intangibles that cannot be reduced to mere numbers," according to an article written by Robert Morse and Sam Flanigan on the World Report Web site. "But for families, the U.S. News rankings provide an excellent starting point because they offer the opportunity to judge the relative quality of institutions based on widely accepted indicators of excellence."

U.S. News uses the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's 2006 basic version of classifications, according to its Web site.

Nine Carnegie categories are compiled into four main groups of National Universities, Liberal Arts Colleges, Universities-Master's and Baccalaureate Colleges. The Universities-Master's and Baccalaureate Colleges categories are then sorted by region into North, South, Midwest and West.

Fifteen areas of academic performance are examined including graduation and retention rates, financial and faculty resources, student selectivity and peer assessment. After gathering this information, U.S. News ranks colleges in each grouping by an overall weighted score.

UNO falls under the Universities-Master's category, which is reserved for schools offering a wide range of undergraduate, master's, and in a few cases, doctoral programs.

"This ranking shows that our colleagues recognize UNO as a high-quality institution," said Terry Hynes, UNO senior vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs in a press release. "We are also pleased that our improved graduation rate had an impact."

U.S. News lists UNO's average freshmen retention rate at 72.2 percent.

This rating actually falls closer to 74 percent because U.S. News doesn't recognize transfer students in this number, according to the press release. The most recently reported six-year graduation rate, according to the press

SEE TOP TIER: PAGE 6

Historic neighborhood becomes battleground

HOLLY FREDRICKSON
CONTRIBUTOR

A historic neighborhood in downtown Omaha has become the focus of a conflict between local residents and UNO sorority Chi Omega.

The sorority has taken preliminary steps toward purchasing a house located at 101 N. 39th St.

Ken Jansen, the NP Dodge real estate agent for the house, described the house as a six-bedroom, turn-of-the-century, sandstone mansion.

The house had been foreclosed and on the market for about a year at a discounted price of \$239,711.

Several parties had been interested in purchasing the home, but none of them were able to close the deal, Jansen said. He first learned of the sorority's interest in the property six or seven weeks ago.

Margie Magnuson, vice president of the Joslyn Castle Neighborhood Association, said many living in the area are opposed to seeing the house turned over to the sorority.

"We've been trying to get back to single-family homes and preserve the historic nature of this neighborhood," Magnuson said. "We don't like to see large groups move into the area because those kinds of groups tend to put a lot of wear-and-tear on the properties."

The Gold Coast and Joslyn Castle neighborhoods have a rich history in Omaha and used to be the area of town where "anybody who was anybody" lived, Magnuson said.



The historic Havens-Page house, pictured above, may become the new home for the UNO sorority Chi Omega. (MITCHELL WARREN/THE GATEWAY)

The Joslyn Castle Neighborhood Association has been working for 20 years to restore the area to its former splendor.

It's been an uphill battle, with crime in the area causing significant setbacks. The house the Chi Omegas are looking at has been vacant all summer and has had problems with break-ins, Magnuson said.

Photos of the property on NP Dodge's Web site shows the house to be in good condition, with amenities like multiple fireplaces, a large wrap-around porch and a three car garage. However, Jansen admits the house is behind on basic maintenance.

"Interior-wise, the house needs a lot of love," he said.

Supporters of the sorority's plans to purchase the property argue the house would

benefit from being occupied again and say the sorority is held to strict standards in regards to visitors and alcohol.

Magnuson and other residents remain wary.

"We're a bit jaded," Magnuson said. "Promises are made for the sake of getting in and then they fall through."

Magnuson hopes the sorority will become active members of the community if they do move into the neighborhood.

According to the official Chi Omega Web site, one of their primary goals as the nation's largest sorority is community service.

"Giving back to people is really important to us," said Chi Omega member Molli Ludvik.

Potential H1N1 case alarms UNO theatre department

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

A potential case of the H1N1 flu virus was discovered in the UNO Theatre Department. A member of the FAUST theatre group continued to attend rehearsals last week despite feeling sick, prompting the president of FAUST to send a warning e-mail to members on Sunday morning.

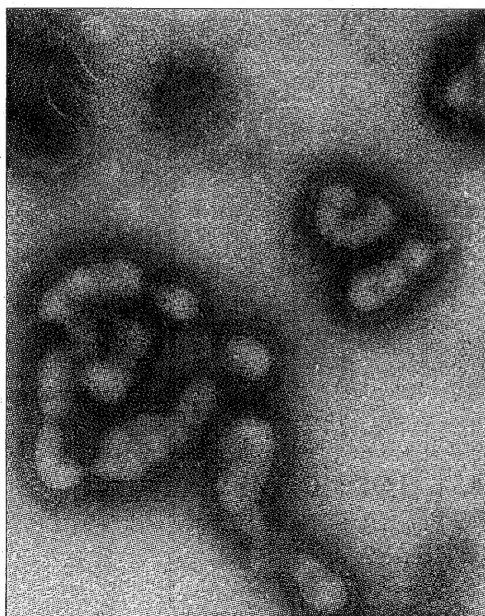


PHOTO COURTESY OF EARTHWEK.COM

FAUST President Andy Shaw said he was not 100 percent certain if the girl was diagnosed with H1N1. Shaw sent another e-mail Sunday afternoon to clarify her diagnosis.

Shaw said he didn't "want to be the one to cry wolf" over this potential case.

"I apologize for last night's scare about the H1N1 incident," he said in his follow-up e-mail. "It was Influenza A, not a confirmed case of H1N1, but I felt the need to at least warn everyone if there is even a potential chance that the FAUST group could be in danger."

He encourages all FAUST members to see a doctor if they develop flu-like symptoms.

The girl has been on antibiotics since Monday and her doctor cleared her to return to campus.

Shaw declined to release the student's name.

UNO student Amanda Harrison-Gorey received the warning e-mail through the FAUST mailing list. Harrison-Gorey used to be a member of the organization but her name was never removed from the list.

"I don't want to be the Chicken Little running around screaming 'We're all gonna die!'" Harrison-Gorey said. "But I want to smack the person for being irresponsible."

The student had been exhibiting symptoms but continued to attend rehearsals because she felt "the show must go on," Harrison-Gorey said in an e-mail.

Students should not panic, said Dr. Philip Smith, chief of infectious diseases at UNMC.

"You don't want to overreact to it," Smith said.

People at high risk for H1N1 infection are the same as those for seasonal flu, according to the Centers for Disease Control Web site. This includes the elderly, children younger than 5, pregnant women, people with chronic health problems such as asthma and people with immunodeficiencies such as HIV or AIDS.

"If someone has H1N1, it has potential to spread to others," Smith said. "Fortunately, it's still a mild illness. Healthy people who are exposed may or may not get it."

Smith said FAUST members who worked within 6 feet of the student should seek medical attention if they exhibit potential symptoms.

"If those people are basically healthy, I wouldn't do anything," Smith said. "If they get sick, go to a doctor, tell them you were exposed to the flu."

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CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

Wednesday, Aug. 26

10:05 p.m. Campus Security responded to an alcohol violation at University Village. A visitor was banned and barred from campus and cited by police for minor in possession of alcohol.

Thursday, Aug. 27

8:15 p.m. A visitor was banned and barred during the UNO football game. The visitor was yelling obscenities at females.

9:55 p.m. While on patrol, Campus Security observed two students talking to groups of females. After a complaint from one of the groups, the students were contacted and an alcohol violation was discovered. Police were called. One student was cited for minor in possession. Both students were referred for disciplinary action.

Friday, Aug. 28

1:37 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The alcohol was disposed of and two students were referred for disciplinary action.

11:57 p.m. While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The alcohol was disposed of and three students were referred for disciplinary action.

Saturday, Aug. 29

1:22 a.m. Campus Security responded to a noise complaint at Scott Village. Investigation discovered alcohol and drug violations. Omaha Police responded. One student was cited for procuring alcohol and possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce. One visitor was cited for possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce. Two visitors were banned and barred from campus. One was student referred for disciplinary action.

2:04 a.m. While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The alcohol was disposed of and two students were referred for disciplinary action.

3 a.m. While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation.

Two students were cited for minor in possession. The alcohol was disposed of and the two students were referred for disciplinary action.

3:19 a.m. A visitor who received a ban and bar notice at 1:22 a.m. returned to campus. The visitor was arrested for violation of the ban and bar notice. In an unrelated incident, another alcohol violation was discovered at Scott Village. Two students were cited for minor in possession. The alcohol was disposed of and two students were referred for disciplinary action.

Monday, Aug. 31

4:05 p.m. A student reported vandalism to their vehicle while parked in Lot 7 on Pacific Street Campus. There are no suspects. The incident occurred between 2:45 p.m. and 2:50 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 1

12:46 p.m. Campus Security responded to Lot J regarding damage to an entry gate. Investigation discovered the gate arm to be broken. A suspect was

identified and located in Maverick Village. Police responded. The visitor was cited for destruction of property.

2:05 p.m. A visitor reported theft of personal property from their vehicle while parked in Lot 10 on Pacific Street Campus. The theft occurred between Aug. 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 1 at 9:15 a.m.

2:45 p.m. Campus Security responded to a complaint of lewd conduct in the Milo Bail Student Center. A student was referred for disciplinary action.

6:45 p.m. A student reported theft of money from their personal property while in the Sapp Field House. The theft occurred between 2:15 p.m. and 6:20 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

2 p.m. A student reported theft of personal property from their vehicle while parked in Lot F. The incident occurred on Monday, Aug. 31 between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Department of foreign languages announces online journal

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

The Department of Foreign Languages announced the creation of an online French literary Journal called "Cents Mots Sur." The purpose of the

journal is to publish creative, first-rate French works in the form of poetry, prose or artwork. Submissions should be 100 words or less. The first issue will be published in December and the theme is "Liberté." Authors do not have to be affiliated with UNO.

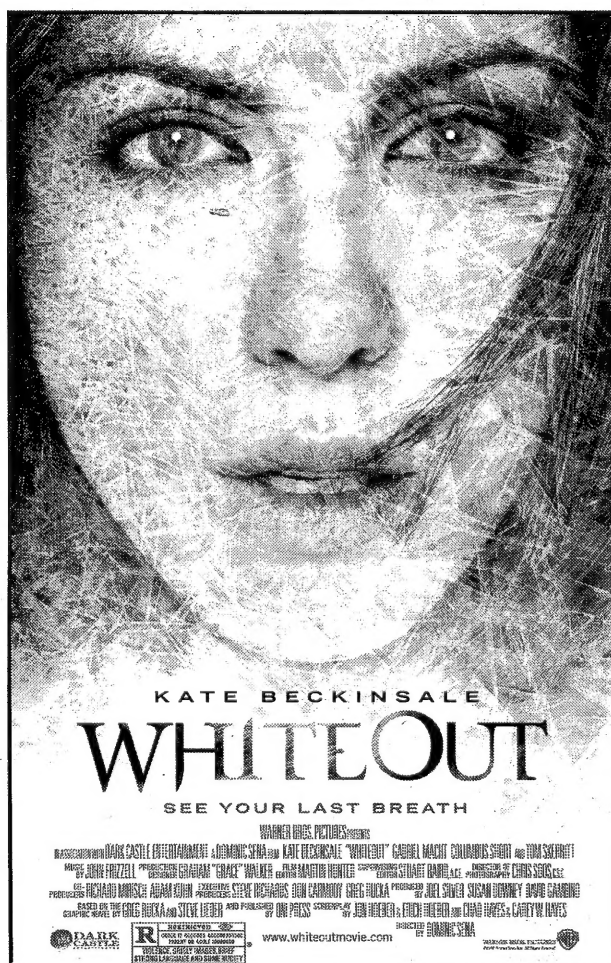
"We invite anyone interested in writing in French to submit an entry. High school and university students and faculty are encouraged to submit entries," said Carolyn Gascoigne, chair of the Department of Foreign Languages in a press release. "We expect many of the entries will be from non-native speakers of French. Therefore, if your work is selected, we will correct minor mistakes (if any) before publication."

Entries must be submitted via e-mail to unocentmos@unomaha.edu by Oct. 23. Include name, city, state, country and school, if applicable. Entries will be judged by the French language faculty at UNO.

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Food Bank, UNO students will hula hoop to raise hunger awareness

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Omaha Food Bank will join forces with a team of UNO public relations students to take action against hunger in the community by hula hooping for awareness.

Fifty-three thousand people live below the poverty line in Douglas County, and 16,800 of those individuals are children, according to the Food Bank. One in every eight children faces food insecurity in America.

Maverick PR, UNO's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America, and the Food Bank will host "Hula Hoop and a Can of Soup" Sept. 9, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Elmwood Park, in an effort to shrink the statistics.

The event coincides with World Hoop Day, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing hula hoops to impoverished children from around the world. The event is also one of 30 events put on by the Food Bank to celebrate Hunger Action Month.

"The Food Bank's role in Hunger Action Month is to draw attention to hunger in our communities and to inspire people to take action or to become an advocate for hunger," said Heather Mead Garrett, the community relations coordinator for the Food Bank.

Participants of all ages are encouraged to donate a can of soup or any non-perishable food item and bring a hula hoop to partake in an open hula hoop dance. Local DJs Brent Crampton, a UNO graduate, and Chris Massara, a UNO senior, will crank

some beats during the dance. Members of Hula Hoop Omaha will also perform.

Alicia Kettleson, Maverick PR co-event planner, said hula hooping is an emerging activity in the Omaha area and it is a fun way to promote a good cause.

"The hooping for hunger event is a food drive with a fun twist...so people can come out and participate in the hula hooping or just enjoy the live music," Kettleson said.

Kettleson said the efforts of the Food Bank to promote hunger awareness are endless and everyone in the community can be equally effective.

"The Omaha Food Bank is constantly providing food to people in the Omaha area and with the economy so bad, more and more people are having to resort to food banks and other organizations for food," Kettleson said.

"Everyone in the community can bring some donations and know that they are helping a good cause."

UNO students, faculty and staff who are unable to attend the event can drop off their non-perishable donations in Arts and Sciences Hall Room 140. Items such as canned meats, pasta, fruits and vegetables and peanut butter and jelly will be accepted. Household goods and personal hygiene items are also acceptable.

Garrett said that the UNO community should make every effort to attend, though.

"[The event] is all about bringing people together under the premise that they are aware of hunger in our communities," Garrett said. "By getting people involved now, it tunes people into a service that can follow for the rest of their lives."

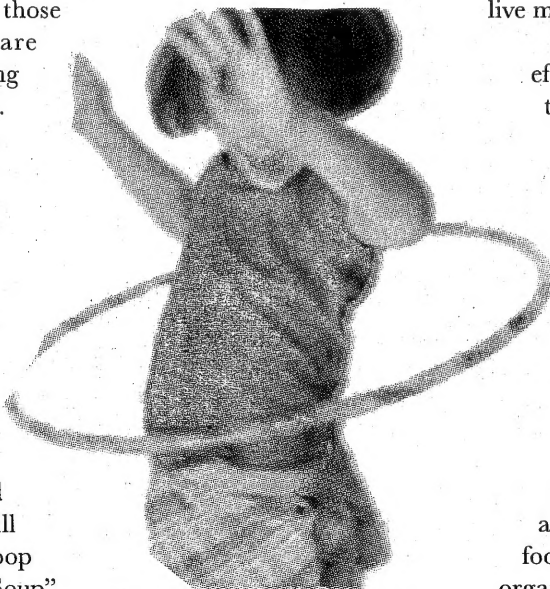


Photo courtesy of facebook.com

Lifelong Learning Initiative geared toward stimulating older learners

KIRBY KAUFMAN
CONTRIBUTOR

Imagine taking a class in which there are no tests, grades, papers or credits. Instead of a classroom, students gather at churches, libraries and mortuaries.

These facilities will serve as the settings for courses offered through UNO's Lifelong Learning Initiative. This initiative is "dedicated to promoting lifelong learning by providing stimulating and varied opportunities designed specifically for lifelong learners aged 50 years and better," according to the initiative's Web site.

The only requirement for these classes is a desire to learn, said Patty Adams, director of the Lifelong Learning Initiative. The classes are an effort of the Lifelong Learning Initiative to enlighten, discover and connect individuals with a challenging and informative learning experience.

Adams said people can take care of their brains by exercising them.

"Learning in enriched environments provides individuals an opportunity to keep

their brains stimulated throughout the aging process," Adams said.

More than 100 people have already registered for the group, with students ranging from ages 50 to 75.

Lifelong Learning was "designed for and by older learners," Adams said. However, students and their relatives are still encouraged to join.

These courses have an initial membership fee of \$50, which covers costs for one course. Any additional courses cost \$25 apiece. Classes are 90 minutes long and vary in length from one to six sessions. Courses such as astronomy, religion, literature, theater and horticulture are offered. However, most courses are offered off-campus, UNO spokeswoman Wendy Townley said.

"Our education programs will challenge and inform you," according to the Web site. "Our arts and creative programs will engage your creative soul. Our social events will allow you to share your unique life experiences with like-minded individuals. Our volunteer programs will help you to make a difference within your community."

UNO college republicans hold kick-off event



The College Republican kick-off event at Clancy's had a high turnout Wednesday night. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

The UNO College Republicans held their fall 2009 kick-off party at Clancy's Bar and Grill Wednesday night. Existing members and potential new members showed up in droves, surpassing the expected turnout of 30 students.

"This has been one of the better turnouts we've seen," Vice President Bethany Ragan. "It's nice to see people are taking more of an interest in politics, regardless of what side it's on."

The College Republicans have a full schedule of events lined up this semester, including a tailgate for the football game between the UNO Mavericks and Truman State on Sept. 12, a tour of the Nebraska State Capitol on Sept. 19, Second Amendment Day on Oct. 8, NEGOP Founder's Day on Oct. 9, a hayrack ride in November, as well as a Christmas party and winter formal in December.

Second Amendment Day is one of the group's more popular activities. Members gather at the Bullet Hole in La Vista to practice "the right to bear arms."

Current President of the College Republicans Alex West said many students join to find like-minded people who are passionate about politics.

"Politics is more pervasive than most young people realize," West said. "It's going to affect how you live your life. By being in a small position like this, it's one way to get introduced to it and maybe make a difference down the line. At this age, you can make a difference in politics."

West said the group plans to do volunteer clerical work at the Douglas County Republican Party offices.

A hotly anticipated debate between UNO's College Republicans and College Democrats may happen this year, Ragan said. She hopes to hear more students' opinions and share her own.

"It's about bridging gaps," she said.

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Application deadline:

Sept. 11, 2009

University Of Nebraska Foundation Provides Funds for UNO Research

NICHOLE CROUSE
CONTRIBUTOR

In an annual process, the University of Nebraska Foundation has granted nearly \$1.2 million for various projects across the four University of Nebraska campuses. This year, UNO received \$266,420 from the foundation, which will go to sponsor water research and health information research.

"We are grateful to the foundation for the opportunity and that these projects have value to the state and welfare for the community," UNO Chancellor John Christensen said.

Every year, the chancellors of UNL, UNK, UNO and UNMC are invited to submit proposals to the Grants Committee to fund one to four special initiatives, said Nancy Castilow, the chancellor's assistant.

Harmon Maher, interim associate vice chancellor for research and creative activity, described three projects the money will help fund.

The first is a research project involving mobile labs created by UNO biology professor Alan Kolok. The mobile labs will aid study of the effect of water compounds on creatures such as minnows. The nature of the research would be to analyze possible harmful effects on human beings, specifically young children. A portion of the funds will help to further develop and deploy the mobile lab units.

"Water is of great interest in the state of Nebraska," Christensen said. "Our project researching how run-off creates pollution is important. It's not surprising that it was chosen."

Another project the grant money will help fund is a collaborative effort between UNO and UNMC to expand an e-infrastructure through software suites and databases.

The third portion of the funds will be granted for new breast cancer research geared toward studying cell signaling. The research will continue to develop techniques and software to model cells.

"We are grateful to the foundation for the opportunity to support these projects that have great value to the state and welfare for the community," Christensen said.

Though the foundation ultimately decides which projects will be funded, both projects submitted by UNO were accepted by the grants committee.

"I think they were especially excited that the funds aligned with UNO's desire to elevate and advance their research and involve students in the research," said Robb Crouch, director of public relations of the University of Nebraska Foundation.

A few recent projects made possible by the support of the foundation and its donors are scholarships for financial aid, grants for fellowships and donations to support the construction of UNO's College of Business Administration.

The foundation continues to support donations and grants to the university by private individuals, corporations and other foundations and distributes funds throughout the university system. More information on how to donate can be found

SEE FUNDS: PAGE 6



UNO student Tim Kucera listens to Omaha World-Herald Reporters Cindy Gonzalez, Christopher Burbach and Jeffrey Robb speak at the "Info from the Pros" event hosted by The Gateway on Sept. 3. (ANDREA CIUREJ/THE GATEWAY)

LOCAL REPORTERS TALK ETHICS AT GATEWAY EVENT

Omaha World-Herald Reporters Cindy Gonzalez, Christopher Burbach and Jeffrey Robb spoke the "Info from the Pros" panel, which was hosted by The Gateway on Sept. 3. The professionals shared their ethical decision-making experiences and advice with students from lecturer Karen Weber's Public Affairs Reporting class and other students. "The whole idea of ethics is how you are representing yourself as a person," Robb said. "It's doing big situations and small situations everyday, what you stand for as a person and as a journalist."

- ANDREA CIUREJ, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Public meetings held to get opinions on Missouri River Restoration

MIKE BELL
CONTRIBUTOR

UNO's Thompson Alumni Center hosted public meetings on Thursday to gather citizen input concerning the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan.

The plan, a restoration effort to repair damage to the Missouri River's ecosystems, is being developed by The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Twenty-nine Native American tribes and many state agencies are partaking in this effort, as well.

"The ultimate goal of the project right now is to see what it takes to restore the river and its tributaries," said Wayne Nelson-Stastny, a coordinator with the Wildlife Service.

Nelson-Stastny said the study was taking cultural factors into account as well as scientific ones. The plan's mission involves working with others to protect both the wildlife and resources of a vast section of our country.

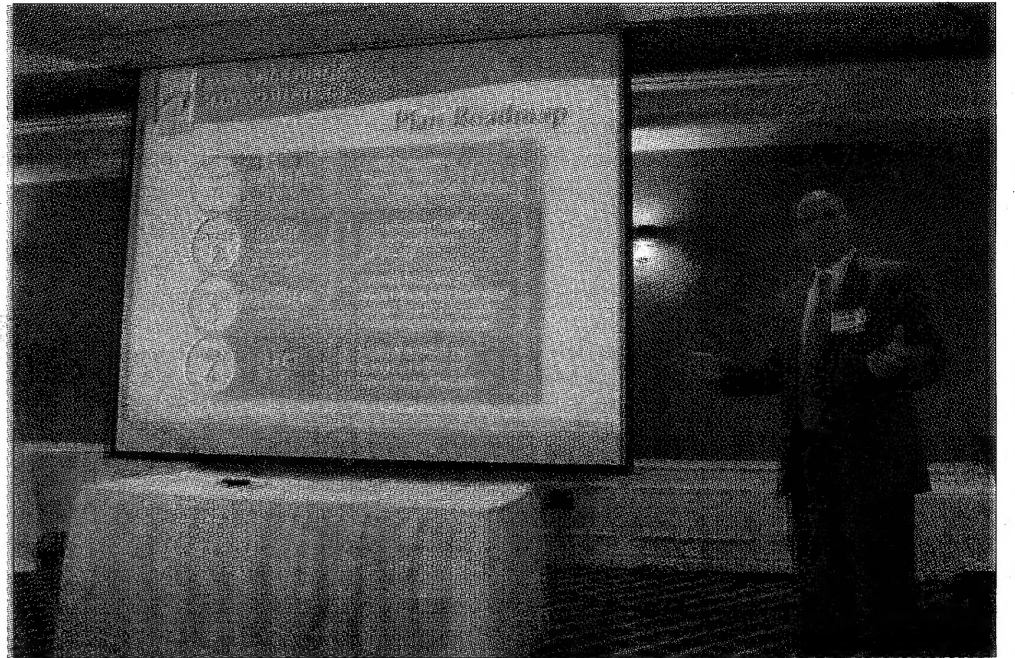
The area impacted by the plan includes one-sixth of the U.S., and will take at least eight years to develop. Another 30 to 50 years are needed to implement the federal project. Funding for the project is 100 percent federal.

"Your generation will reap the benefits of our work," Nelson-Stastny said.

Participation was a point that was stressed throughout the meeting.

"This study is in its very early stages. We want to make sure the public's input is gathered and considered before moving forward with this effort," said Dave Crane, environmental resources specialist with the Corps.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is



Randy Sellers, project manager from the US Army Corps of Engineers talks about devising plans and taking opinions from civilians. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

the world's largest public engineering, design and construction management agency. The Corps has already helped in development of the MRERP by instigating the Mitigation Project in March 2008 to acquire land needed for fish and wildlife habitats from Sioux City, Iowa, to St. Louis.

The Corps is currently seeking public input and critiques on the MRERP as to what course of action to take. Feedback can be given at the MRERP Web site.

Social, economic and cultural issues including flood risks, recreational uses, power production from dams and agricultural use are being considered.

"If you're passionate about the Missouri River or just have an interest, please come by and help us make this plan for the future of the Missouri River ecosystem," Crane

said.

People can suggest natural resources to be addressed, such as endangered species and culturally significant plants and fish.

Corps Project Manager Randy Sellers told the crowd he was there to listen to their ideas.

"We understand that many people have their own vision as to what the river should look like 50 years from now," Sellers said. "The enemy of good science is perfect science, so we are going to learn from your ideas through adaptive management."

He said the plan must be more than just economically and technologically feasible and must stay close to what citizens desire.

"We are truly working to make this a collaborative effort," he said.

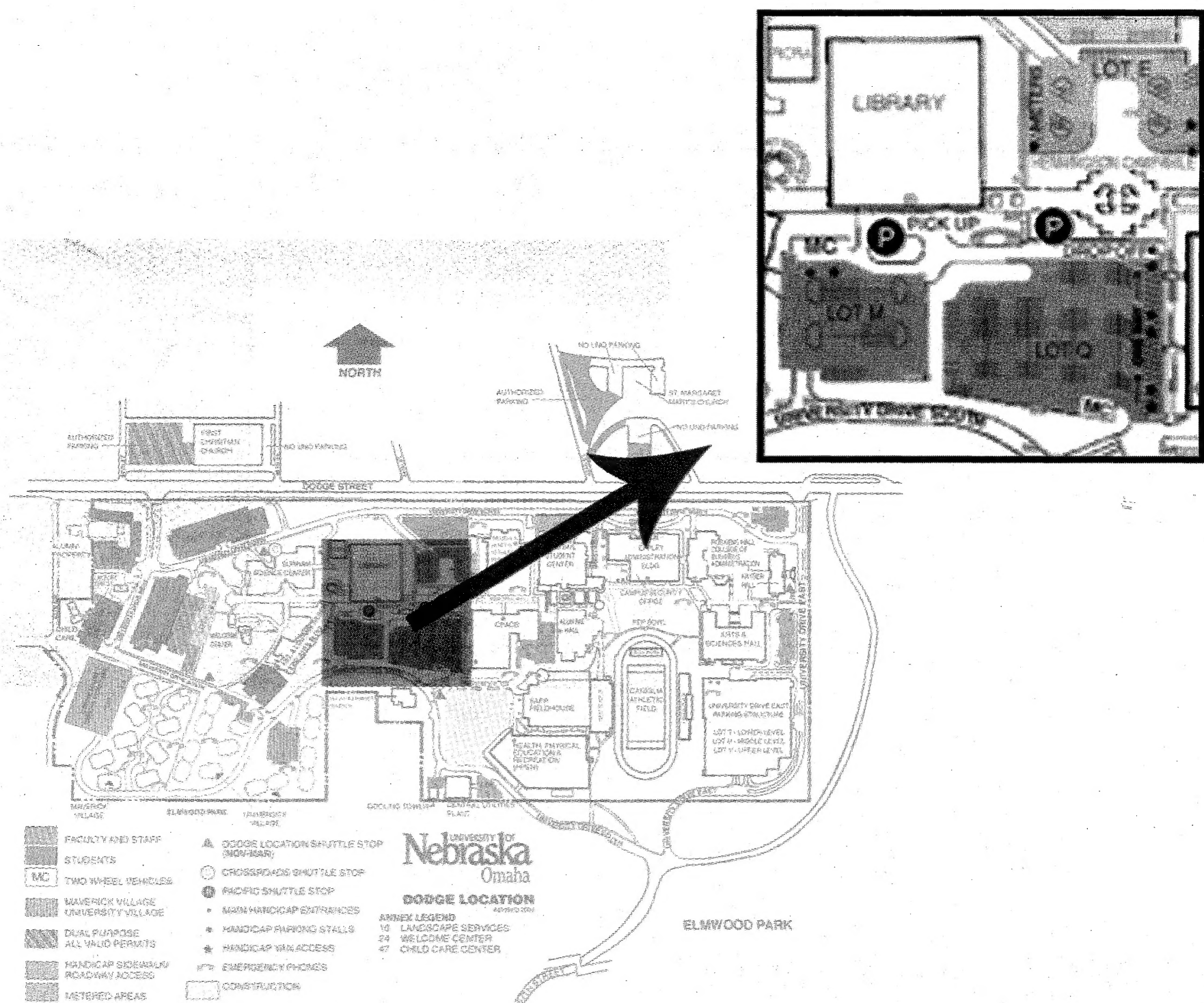
New Pacific Shuttle

Bus Route This Fall

Starting in the Fall 2009 semester, the Pacific shuttle route will **ONLY** drop off at the northeast corner of Lot Q (near the bell tower) and pick up in the north part of lot M (lower level south of the library).

From Nov. 1, 2009 to March 12, 2010 there will be an inter-campus shuttle that will circle the Dodge location and drop off/pick up students at all the normal shuttle stops.

**The Crossroads shuttle route will remain the same.*



Contact Campus Security at 554.2648 for more information

Cardiac Electrophysiology Breakthrough Illuminates VA Medical Center Success

NEIL HUBEN
CONTRIBUTOR

The tenuous American economy has elevated unemployment and curtailed health care coverage. It's a continual endeavor to provide affordable, cutting-edge medical treatment to the veterans and civilians of Nebraska.

The Omaha VA Medical Center and the University of Nebraska Medical Center are actively engaged in this effort.

The most recent significant breakthrough came on July 30 when clinical cardiac electrophysiologist Dr. John Scherschel, staff physician at the Omaha VA Medical Center performed the first placement of an implantable cardioverter defibrillator using the breakthrough SJ4 connector system.

Scherschel's procedure using the SJ4 connector was the first of its kind to be performed in Nebraska and the first to be performed at a VA Medical Center in the country.

An ICD is similar to a pacemaker.

"ICDs are used to terminate a heart rhythm called ventricular fibrillation, a lethal heart rhythm where the heart does not function as a pump at all," said Dr. Mohammed Quader, director of Heart Transplantation and Ventricular Assistant

Device Therapy at Omaha Medical Center. "Patients with ventricular fibrillations are unconscious. No blood is being pumped to their brain, and they will die in a matter of minutes."

The ICD terminates the ventricular fibrillation instantly and restores the pre-existing heart rhythm, he said.

"Many of my patients awaiting heart transplantation do get ventricular fibrillation, and the ICD keeps them alive until they come to the emergency room and get appropriate treatment," Quader said. "If it were not for the ICDs, we would be losing many more patients while they wait for new hearts."

The SJ4 is a new connector system that has been designed to minimize the number of connections between cardiac leads and the ICD.

"The new system avoids extra leads and a hub connecting the various parts into a single lead body," Scherschel said. "In addition, the new system avoids any potential for incorrect connection between the device and the leads since with the IS-1 connection [the previous model], the two coils were nearly identical."

In addition to decreasing potential connection errors, the device is easier to implant, "as there is less need for additional cables, connections and hardware," Quader

said.

Both Quader and Scherschel said a significant benefit of this device is its ability to be programmed from outside the hospital. This benefits patients in instances when they cannot come to the hospital immediately.

Scherschel's implantation of the SF4 is both a significant breakthrough in cardiac electrophysiology and an illumination of the cutting-edge medical care being provided to veterans at the Omaha VA Medical Center.

"The success of the VA healthcare system can be traced primarily to tracking and reporting of outcomes," said Dr. Jason Johanning, Omaha VA Medical Center chief of surgery and chief of vascular surgery at UNMC. "Our outcomes for veterans with regards to their care are as good, if not better, than any other hospital system. This is also due to an advanced electronic medical record that has been recognized as the best global system for patient care."

The success of the Omaha VA Medical Center can also be attributed to its high quality of physicians.

"The Nebraska-Western Iowa VA is unique to be situated in close proximity to the UNMC and CUMC campuses,"

Johanning said. "The physicians at those institutions often train at VA medical centers and know the value of being able to provide care and carry out cutting-edge research in a supportive setting such as the VA."

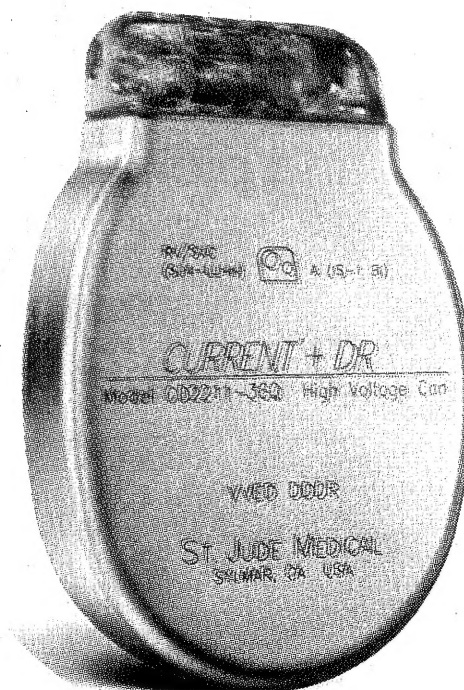


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNMC

FROM FUNDS: PAGE 4

at the NU Foundation Web site. In 2008, the foundation raised \$130 million for the university – the most in the organization's 73-year history.

Last week, the foundation announced a new campaign to raise funds. The goal for the funds will ultimately continue to support research and academic programs, maintain and add to retirement funds for faculty and help provide even more student scholarships.

"This campaign is focused on opportunities for students, on expanding research in areas we are already renowned

FROM TOP TIER: PAGE 1

release, is more than 42 percent.

The total of UNO's freshman retention rate and six-year graduation rate serves as 25 percent of UNO's overall ranking.

"The higher the proportion of freshmen who return to campus the following year and eventually graduate, the better a school is apt to be at offering the classes and services that students need to succeed," according to Morse and Flanigan's article.

This is especially worth noting since campus enrollment for the 2009 fall semester at UNO has surged to 15,380 students, according to a press release.

This number, a 2.6 percent increase from last year, includes students enrolled in colleges and programs at other University of Nebraska campuses.

This is due in part to the success of the Metropolitan Advantage Program, through which UNO has welcomed more than 160 students this fall from Harrison, Mills and Pottawattamie counties in Iowa. Started two years ago, MAP allows these students to pay \$255.75 per credit hour rather than the

in and on making a difference in Nebraska," said James B. Milliken, president of the University of Nebraska in a press release. "The campaign will continue to build on the university's tremendous momentum."

Previous campaigns have consistently surpassed their goals. One campaign held between 1977 and 1980 raised more than \$51 million. A recent seven-year campaign ending in 2000 brought in \$727 million, almost tripling the original \$250 million goal.

"Our board of directors was excited and pleased to support UNO with the grant this year," Crouch said.

usual nonresident fee of \$502.50.

UNO's success is further clinched by the Council for Aid to Education in New York, which reported, "UNO does the best job... among 176 colleges and universities in improving students' intellectual abilities from freshman to senior year," according to the U.S. News Web site.

This is reflected by the 4 percent increase of first-time freshmen and transfer students since fall 2008. They currently make up 3,400 people in UNO's student body.

"As we welcome our 100th class of incoming freshmen, UNO ranks among the nation's elite metropolitan universities," Chancellor John Christensen said in a press release. "We are committed to providing a dynamic and diverse higher-education experience in a metropolitan setting where our students develop the academic skills needed to be successful wherever their lives or careers may take them."

As fall approaches, solicitors appear on campus

BEN MCCALL
CONTRIBUTOR

With the beginning of fall semester, students are returning to campus. However, students aren't the only individuals going back to school – magazine solicitors have returned, too.

Paul Kosel, the assistant manager of UNO security and traffic, issued a warning through the university's Web site to encourage caution and common sense when interacting with magazine solicitation scams on campus.

These magazine solicitors usually claim to be students in UNO's School of Communication who are working on a fundraiser to take a trip to the Caribbean. This fundraiser doesn't exist, these solicitors are not part of the School of Communication and they are not even students at UNO.

"When campus security confronts them, they typically say they are out of a company in Texas or Florida," Kosel said. "They are visitors usually, not even from Nebraska. Usually anywhere but here."

The university requires all solicitors get permission to solicit on campus grounds. These magazine solicitors have never received permission from UNO.

"We've never been able to verify any of these companies they say they work with exist," Kosel said. "Usually if we do get a phone number it goes to an unnamed answering machine. You can make up a card and put whatever you want on it."

"When we make contact with them we inform them that no unapproved solicitors on campus and if they want permission they have to request it at the student center," Kosel said. "So far none have requested permission so if they don't leave we would call the police, but it has never escalated that far."

Kosel mentioned the solicitors typically reside by the bell tower but they have been

known to appear by the student residents on campus. Sometimes solicitors will appear at the University Village and knock door-to-door.

The solicitors have also been known to appear off-campus. Usually the solicitors go where UNO students have been known to visit, such as Omaha's malls.

Brittany Dorner, a sophomore at UNO, faced a magazine solicitor at Oakview Mall this summer.

"My friend and I were in the food court and a man approached us and asked if we would vote for him," Dorner said. "When we asked what he was talking about he explained he was with a student fund and if he receives enough votes he would win a trip to the Dominican Republic."

"He was very enthusiastic and complimentary, but when we discovered he wanted us to make a purchase for some magazines we refused," Dorner said. "He then stated that his girlfriend was pregnant and tried to guilt-trip us into buying magazines."

"He was very pushy and even brought a friend over to make me feel guilty," Dorner said. "They said they just needed me to fill out a form with my bank account and credit card information on it, they wouldn't leave."

According to the warning issued through UNO's website, students who do purchase these magazines may or may not receive the magazines they pay for.

"If you don't receive your magazines you can supposedly file a complaint and call the company that makes the subscriptions," Kosel said. "But I'd advise students to contact the Better Business Bureau."

Kosel advises students to report any magazine solicitors to UNO's campus security. Dorner also had some advice:

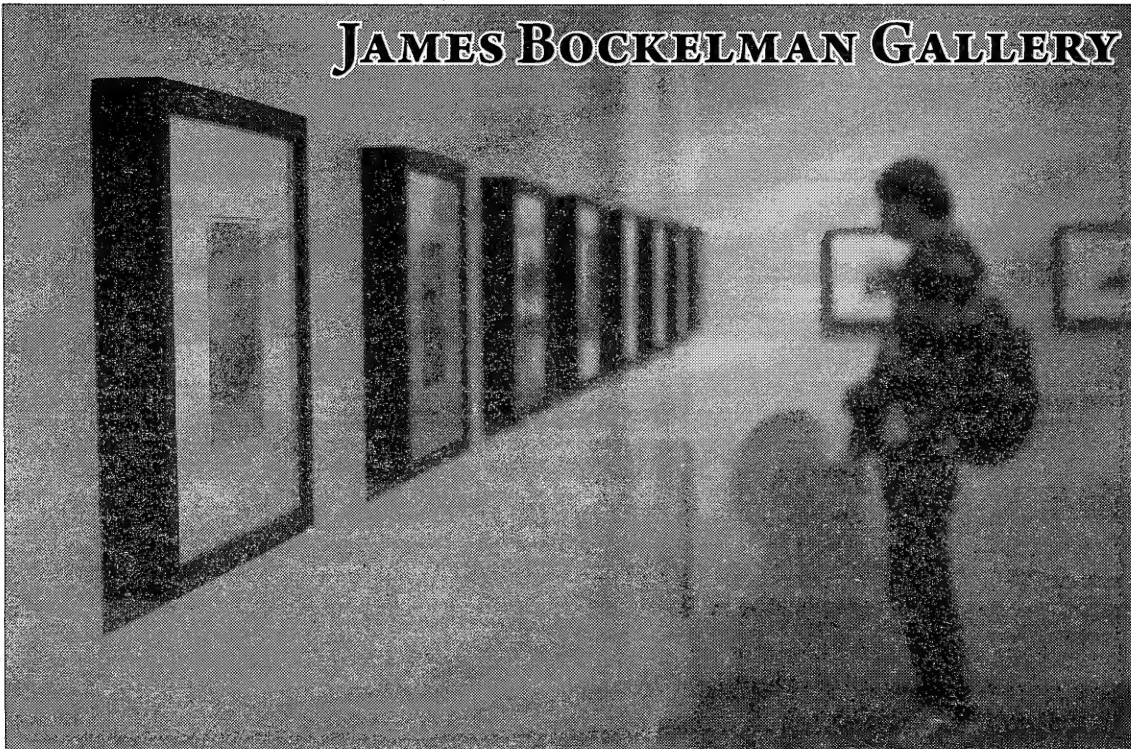
"Don't make eye contact and get away as fast as you can."

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JAMES BOCKELMAN GALLERY



Pictured above: Fine arts student Hans Alpsteig browses through the works of David Bockelman. (JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY)

Pictured Right: James Bockelman explains his works Thursday at the UNO art gallery. His showing was called 'A Sidelong Glance'. (JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY)



Seasonal Motorcycle Parking

- north of Peter Kiewit Institute
(southwest corner of Lot 2)
- south of University Library
(northwest corner of Lot M)
- north of Kayser Hall
(northwest corner of Lot A)
- Parking Structure
(stop by Campus Security, EAB, Rm. 100 for details)
- Center Location
(West of the Dome in lot 20)
- southwest of CPACS
(southeast corner of Lot Q)



Call Campus Security for more information • 554-2648

SEPTEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

COMPILED BY ANDREA BARBE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Sept. 9 – UNO's Milo Bail Student Center hosts author Lisa Sandlin as part of the Missouri Valley Reading Series. Sandlin, who wrote "In the River Province," will read excerpts from her work in the Nebraska Room starting at 7:30 p.m. For more information about this event, call 554-2151.

Sept. 10 – The UNO Voices Against Violence Task Force, in partnership with the Omaha YWCA, presents a "Back-to-School BBQ" and an outdoor viewing of the film "The Waitress" from 6 to 9 p.m. at Maverick Village. Following the movie will be an open discussion moderated by a YMCA spokesperson and prizes will be given away. For more information at this free event, call Jill Sauser at 515-3557.

Sept. 11 – The Rose Theater main stage puts on "The Velveteen Rabbit." Tickets for the children's classic tale are \$16. Performances for this show run through Sept. 27.

Sept. 12 – The Old Market Gallery Crawl presents a fun, free art tour showcasing local artists' work. The crawl will take place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sept. 12 – Local police officers and firefighters duke it out in the Guns and Hoses Boxing Challenge presented by Victory Fighting. This event takes place at 7:05 p.m. in the Mid-America Center Arena. Tickets can be purchased through the MAC Box Office or at any Ticketmaster outlet.

Sept. 13 – Director and Omaha native Alexander Payne, along with actress Debra Winger, host the second annual Film Streams Feature 2009, a fundraiser to help support Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater, Omaha's nonprofit cinema. The celebration begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Holland Performing Arts Center. General admission tickets are \$35 and can be purchased by calling Ticket Omaha at 345-0606.

Sept. 13 – The Nebraska Brewing Company hosts the Great Nebraska Beer Fest at the Shadow Lake Towne Center in Papillion. Tickets cost \$25 with festivities beginning at 1 p.m.

Sept. 14 – Wendi Fox, a former high-risk drinker and stand-up comedian, comes to UNO to speak on the dangers of excessive drinking. This event is held at noon in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room.

Sept. 15 – Omaha Fashion Week kicks off at the Nomad Lounge at 10th and Jones St. The week wraps up with the Runway Finale on Sept. 19 at 8 p.m. General Admission tickets are \$20 and VIP tickets are \$75. For more information, visit omahafashionweek.com.

Sept. 16 – UNO presents the Latin American Cultural Fair at noon in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room. The fair features the Xiotal and Grupe Kumbe Dance Groups. To learn more about this event, call 554-2711.

Sept. 17 – The Omaha Symphony hosts Music and Masterpieces Gala and Art Auction at Rockbrook Village on 108th and West Center Road. Activities begin at 5 p.m. and cost \$75 per person. Reservations are required. Call 342-3836 ext. 171 for more information.

Sept. 18 – Indie rock band Silversun Pickups, along with Manchester Elephant and Cage the Elephant, play Sokol Auditorium. The concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

Sept. 19 – The Waiting Room Lounge hosts the Live Music and Hot Rod show. Hot rod movies, along with a Hot Rod car show takes place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. with music from the Mezcal Brothers, The Mercurys and the J.J. Will's Band immediately following the show. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Sept. 20 – Sokol Auditorium hosts Buckcherry for an 8 p.m. show. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster.

Sept. 22 – The Mixed Blood Theatre presents "Minnekanos," a piece celebrating Chicano culture throughout history. The performance begins at noon in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room and will be followed by a short discussion.

Sept. 23 – William H. and Dorothy Thompson Alumni Center hosts Nicolae Roddy, a UNO Religious Studies alumnus, at the Religious Studies Centennial Lecture. This event kicks off at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. For more information, contact William L. Blizek at 554-3347.

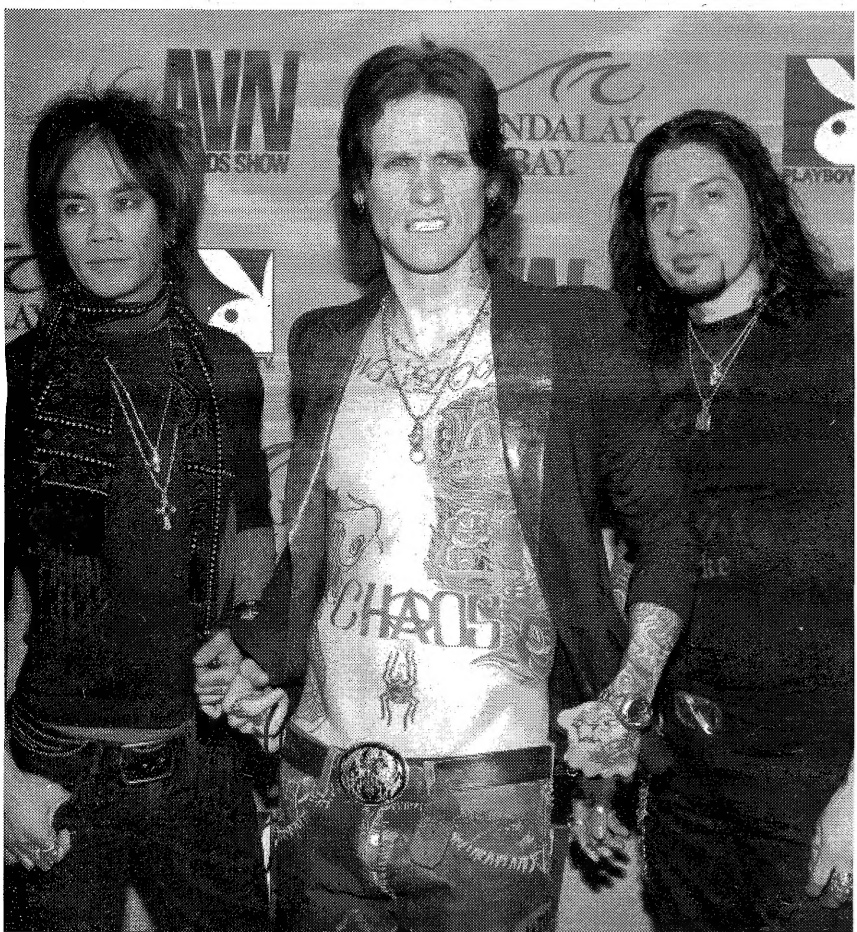
Sept. 23 – Rick Bass, author of "Why I Came West" and "The Wild Marsh," presents his works at another installment of the Missouri Valley Reading Series. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room.

Sept. 23 – Indie rockers Built to Spill play the Slowdown. The concert starts at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased through etix.com.

Sept. 24 – Ak-sar-ben will kick off River City Roundup and the Douglas County Fair. Festivities run until Sept. 27.

Sept. 25 – Regency Lake and Tennis Club hosts the second annual Oktoberfest with donations going towards the Alzheimer's Association Midlands Chapter. The event starts at 7 p.m. Admission is \$100 per person or \$150 per couple and 100 percent tax deductible.

Sept. 29 – Slowdown presents alternative band, Thursday, along with The Fall of Troy, Young Widows and La Dispute. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17 in advance or \$20 day of show.



Top to Bottom:

1. The Rivier City Roundup fair and rodeo will be held at the Qwest Center September 24-27. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)
2. Buck Cherry (PHOTO COURTESY OF BUCKCHERRY.COM)
3. Alexander Payne (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)
4. Built to Spill (PHOTO COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM/ BUILTTOSPILL)

Legends of the fall: Why Pumpkin Ales and Oktoberfests make autumn the best season for beer

CHARLEY REED
CONTRIBUTOR

September and early October are the best times of the year for beer and beer drinkers.

Now, some may argue that it's July because it's hot and there's nothing more refreshing than a crisp, cold beer on a hot summer day. Others may argue that it's December because it's cold and the thicker stouts and porters make for a delicious treat as you warm yourself by the fire. Both arguments are sound, yes, but neither July nor December can offer two of the greatest specialty beer types: Pumpkin Ales and Oktoberfest Märzens.

While pumpkin-flavored beer may not seem like the most appealing thing in the world, there is actually much to love about the pumpkin ale's taste and history.

The first pumpkin beers on record were served during Thanksgiving in the early colonies. Because of the high cost to import malt for the brewing of beer, many, including Benjamin Franklin, experimented with using pumpkin and other squash-like plants to compensate.

However, it wasn't until the recent revolution of craft breweries and craft brewers that pumpkin ales became a highly-desired specialty beer.

Only released in autumn, pumpkin ales vary between traditional recopies which use actual pumpkin pieces in the flavoring process and those which simply add pumpkin pie spices like nutmeg, cinnamon and ginger.

While some ales, like Buffalo Bill's, can sometimes seem like they are over-spiced or, like Blue Moon's Harvest Moon, can seem too light, there are a wide variety of pumpkin ale styles.

Most pumpkin ales are in the 5 percent to 6 percent alcohol-by-volume range while others, like Dogfish Head's Punkin Ale and Southern Tier's Pumpking, are highly regarded and highly potent additions to the style.

We in the Midwest don't have many high-potency pumpkin beers to choose from. One we do get is Weyerbacher's Imperial Pumpkin Ale which comes in at an impressive 8 percent ABV.

What makes Weyerbacher's beer so good is the thickness the higher alcohol content, which adds to the sweetness and

spices of your traditional pumpkin ale. It's as close as you can get to drinking a piece of pumpkin pie.

But pumpkin ales are only one feature of what makes autumnal beers so exciting. Oktoberfest, both the beers and the festivals, are an attraction all of their own.

Oktoberfests come in all shapes and sizes, but the basic formula involves a malt-heavy lager with a crisp, slightly hoppy finish. The Oktoberfest style is more accurately called a Märzenbier (March beer), because while it's served in September, during the Oktoberfest celebrations in Germany, the brewing process is usually completed in March. Before modern-day refrigeration techniques it was nearly impossible to brew beer in the summer for fall distribution.

The Bavarian process, dating back to the 15th century, involved storing the beer in a storage cellar (a lager) to avoid contact with sunlight and thus keep cooler temperatures.

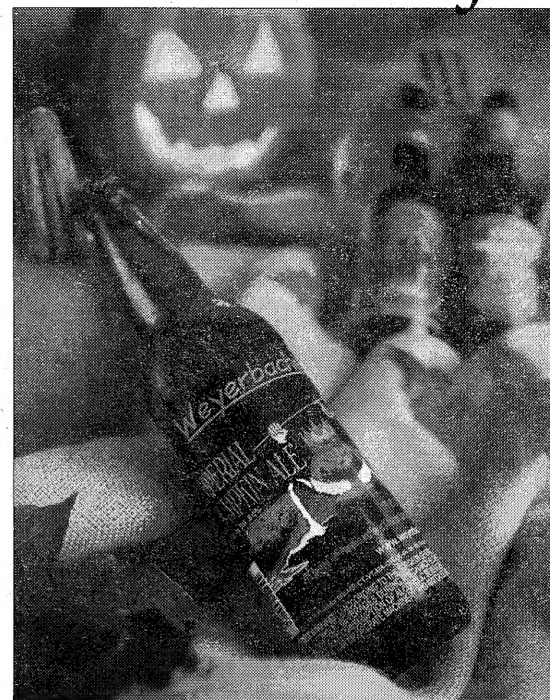
These beers gained mythological proportions after Bavarian beer-makers Spaten, Löwenbräu, Augustiner, Hofbräu, Paulaner and Hacker-Pschorr began to regularly serve their products at Germany's Oktoberfest celebrations in 1818.

Traditional Oktoberfest lagers are around 5 percent to 6 percent alcohol-by-volume. The most commonly consumed in America are Spaten and Paulaner, which are lightly colored and provide a classic caramel-and-bread malt flavor.

But today, many American beer makers have taken on the Oktoberfest tradition and put their own twist on the recipe. In other words, they've added more hops and alcohol.

The most popular American Oktoberfest is without a doubt Samuel Adams Oktoberfest, which is actually much more drinkable than some of the classic Märzen lagers. Other popular offerings come from Left Hand, Flying Dog and Summit. One of the more unique and tasty American Oktoberfests is Avery's The Kaiser, which is an Imperial Oktoberfest, meaning that rather than the ordinary 6 percent ABV the beer is a significantly more potent 9.3 percent ABV.

However, the most exciting thing about Oktoberfest beers in September is enjoying them at one of the numerous Oktoberfest celebrations around Omaha.



Weyerbacher Imperial Pumpkin Ale (PHIL MASTURZO/ AKRON BEACON JOURNAL/MCT)

For decades Omaha has featured numerous Oktoberfest celebrations which not only pay tribute to the world of beer provided by Germany but also the amazingly rich cultural heritage of the country.

The first major Oktoberfest celebration occurs at Gerda's German Bakery on Sept. 11 and 12. The following week, Oktoberfest marks its 125th anniversary at the German American Society in south Omaha, and one week later The Crescent Moon and Huber Häus in Midtown are running their annual Oktoberfest event.

In past years these events have included live polka music, dancing, authentic German cuisine, folk singers, and, of course, a wide variety of Oktoberfest beers imported directly from Germany.

So while some may argue that a cold beer on the 4th of July or a thick stout on Christmas Eve is the ultimate holiday beer-tasting experience, there is only one holiday, and one season, dedicated to celebrating the variety and vitality of brewing beer. So this fall, make sure to go out and celebrate the rich history and equally rich flavors the season has to offer but, as always, drink responsibly and in good company.

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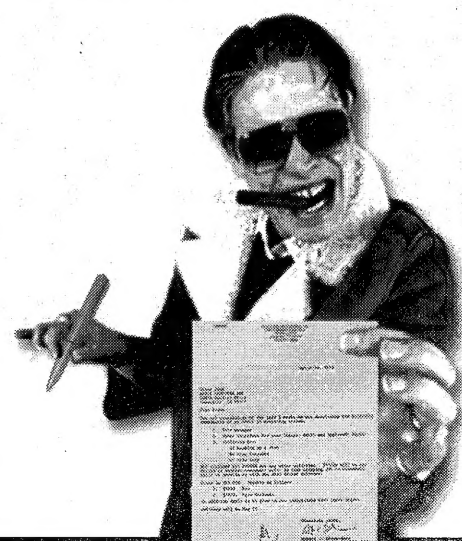
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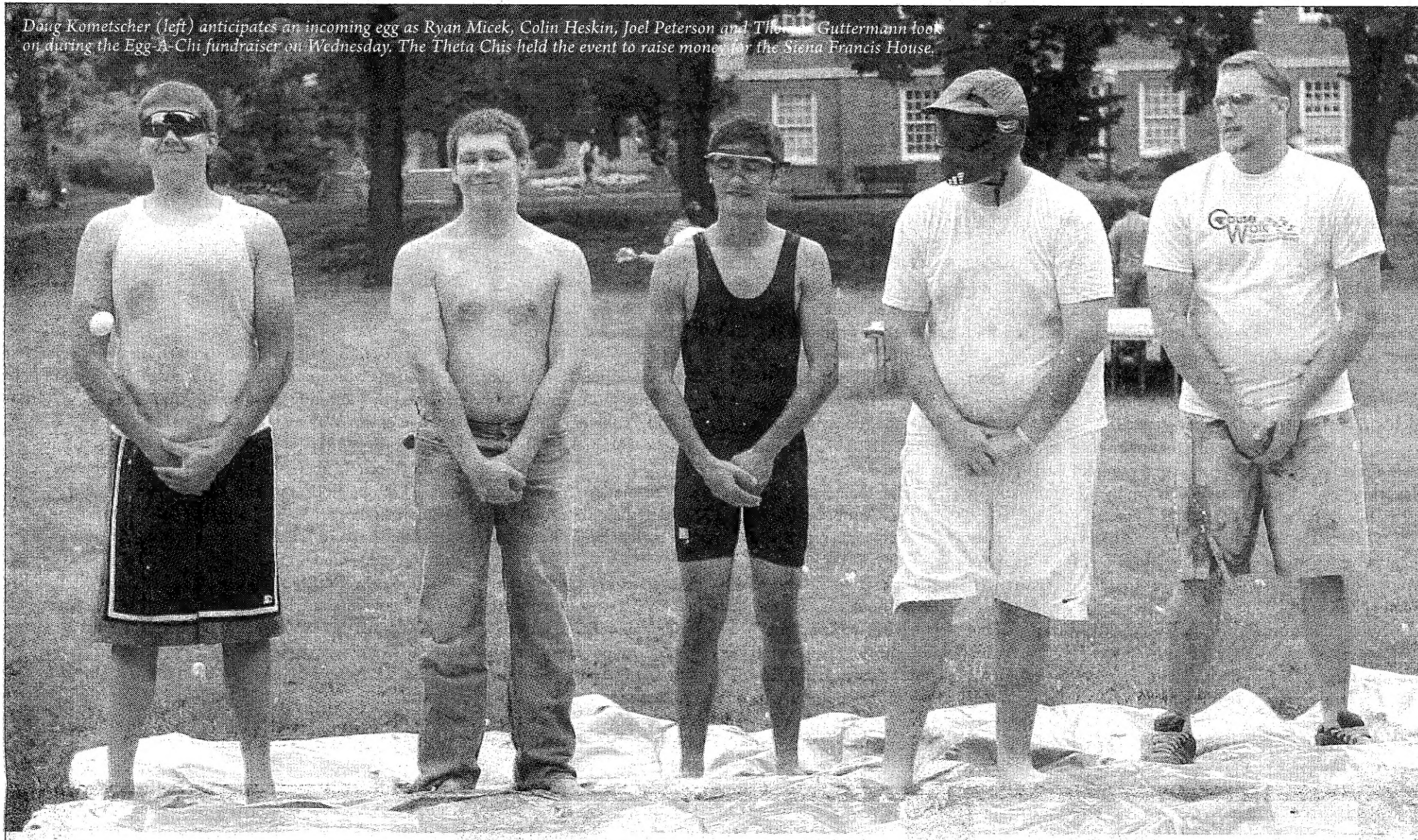
**PLEASE NOTIFY CAMPUS SECURITY AT
554-2648 WITH A DESCRIPTION AND
LOCATION OF THE SOLICITOR IF YOU ARE
APPROACHED.**



EGG-A-CHI

ALL PHOTOS BY JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY

Doug Kometscher (left) anticipates an incoming egg as Ryan Micek, Colin Heskin, Joel Peterson and Thomas Guttermann look on during the Egg-A-Chi fundraiser on Wednesday. The Theta Chis held the event to raise money for the Siena Francis House.



AVOID the STINK of
Late Payment Fees...



Know when your tuition and fees
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Tuition Payments Due:

September 15, 2009

Student E-Bills are available on E-BRUNO. Please check your official UNO email account for your billing notification. The first half of tuition and fees was billed 08/28/09 and due 09/15/09. The remaining balance will be billed 09/18/09 and due 10/06/09.

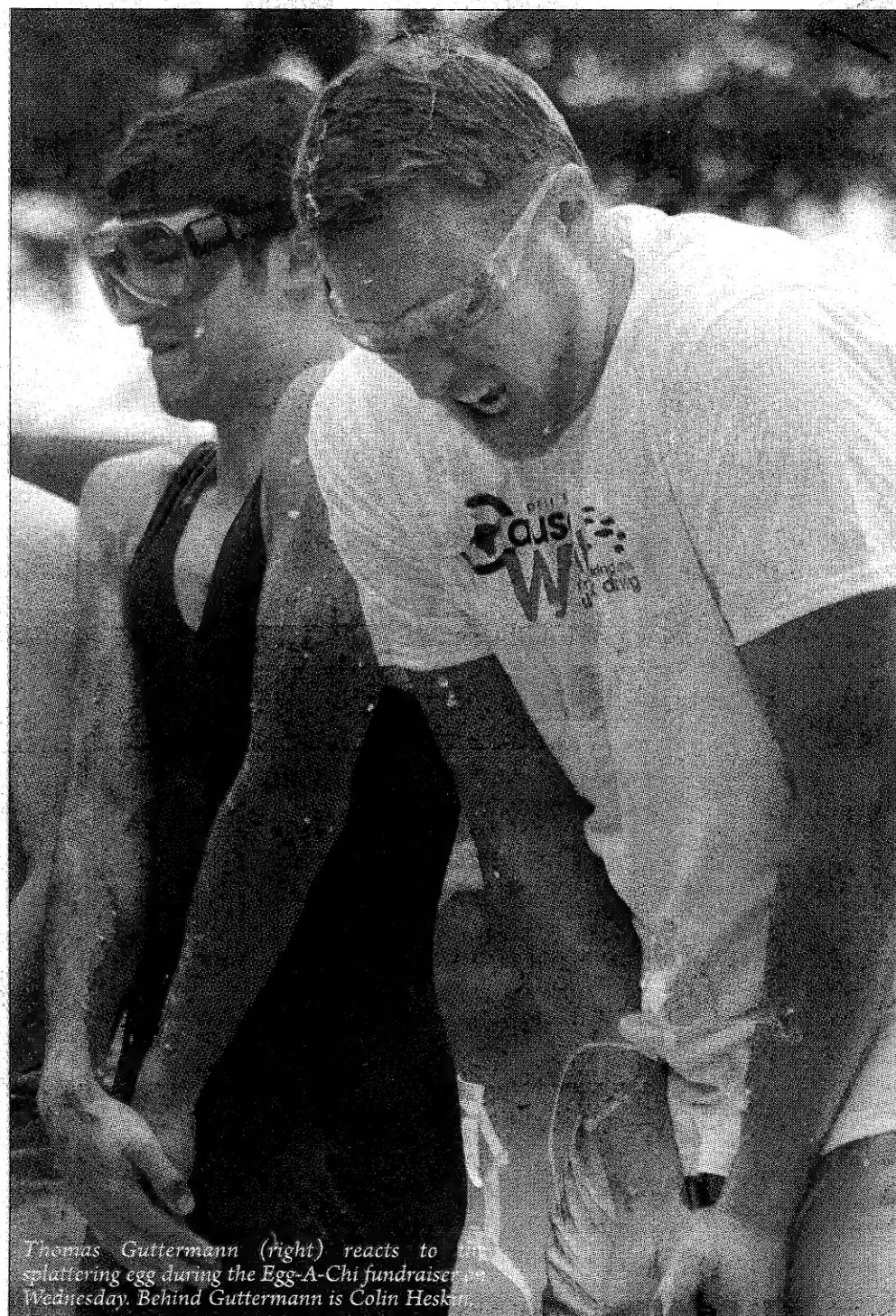
Late Payment Fees

Each unpaid bill is subject to late payment fees. Also, students who do not make their required payments will have holds placed on their enrollment, financial aid and transcripts.

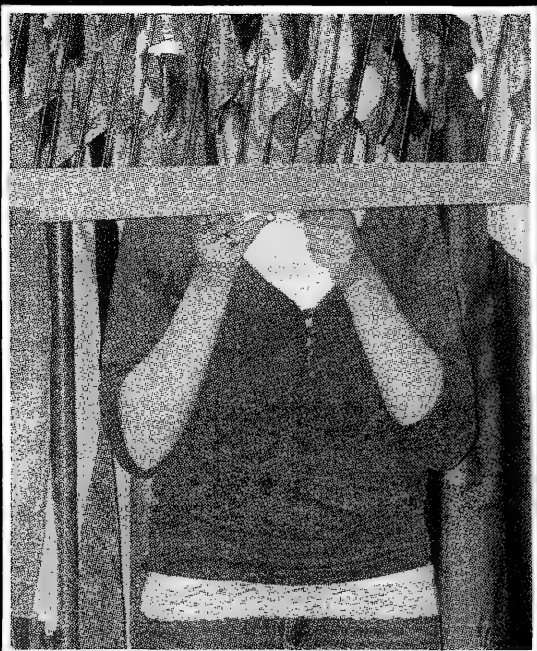
UNO accepts cash, checks, credit cards, and money orders for payment of tuition and fees.

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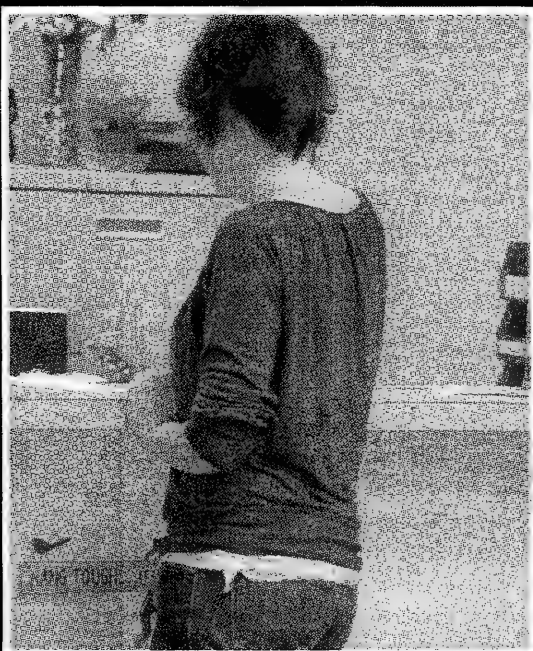
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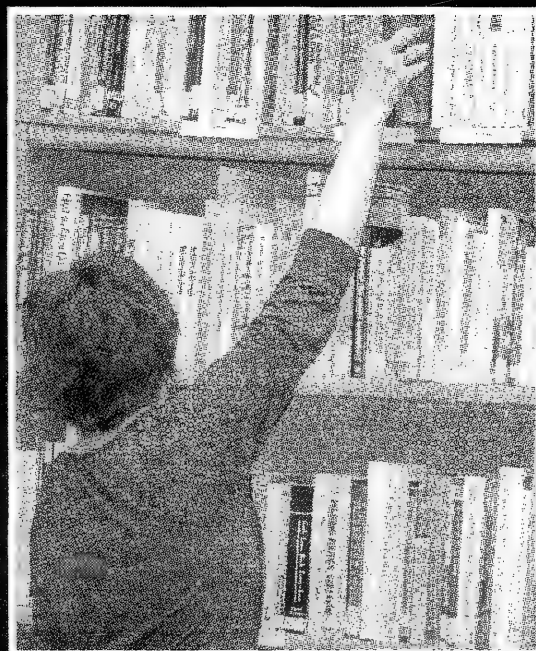
Thomas Guttermann (right) reacts to the splattering egg during the Egg-A-Chi fundraiser on Wednesday. Behind Guttermann is Colin Heskin.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES



STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

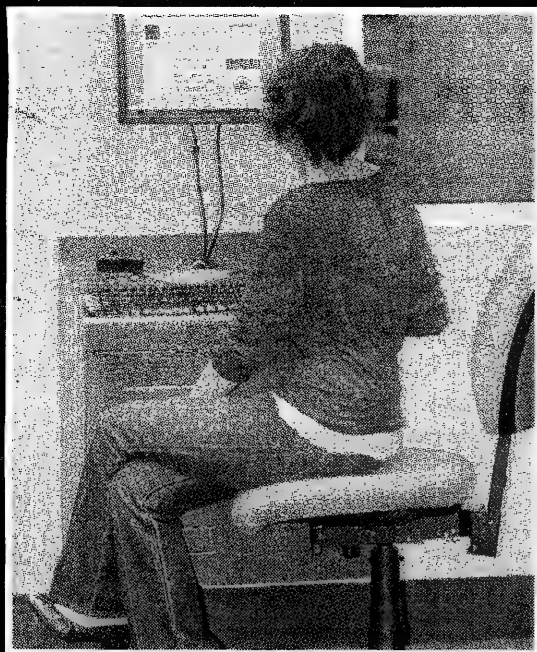
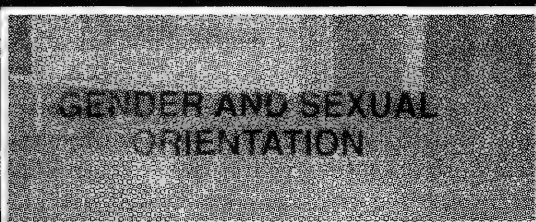
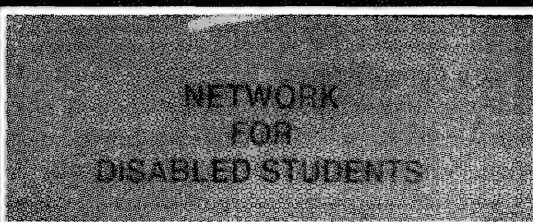
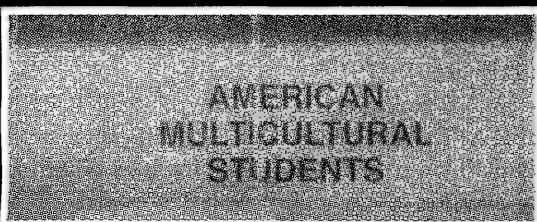


WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

MBSC OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, September 9th

12 pm to 1 pm



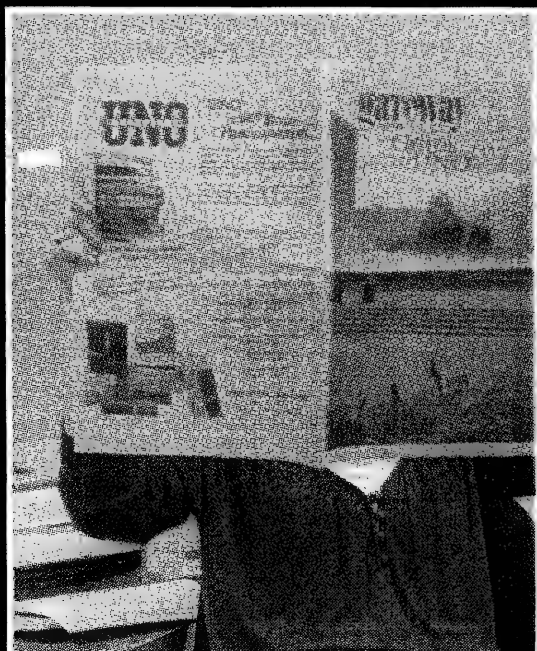
THE CAREER CENTER



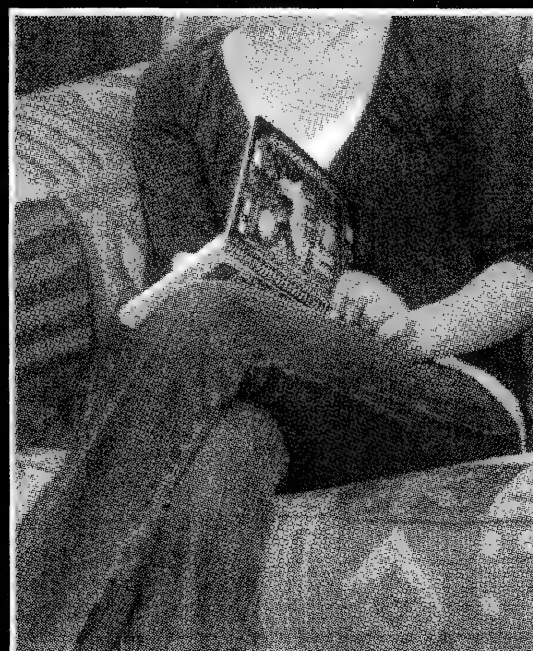
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Rob Zombie revitalizes gore of 'Halloween' past

CHRISTOPHER BYARS
DAILY TROJAN (USC)

Writer-director Rob Zombie possesses a lot of ambition that has yet to be perfected. His new film, "Halloween II," which itself is a sequel to his 2007 remake of John Carpenter's 1978 slasher classic "Halloween," clearly illustrates that while Zombie has a long way to go, he is certainly heading in the right direction.

Zombie's latest remake picks up a few hours after the first film of the franchise ends — with the iconic mask-wearing killer Michael Myers presumed dead and en route to the morgue. But after a freak accident during transportation, Myers — who turns out to be very much alive — escapes custody.

Then there is Laurie (Scout Taylor-Compton), one of the few survivors from the film's predecessor who, even after a year, is still completely terrified and convinced that Myers will come back. The trauma from the first film has left her with horrible nightmares in which she witnesses Myers' carnage repeatedly before she is murdered as well.

While some remain paralyzed from the horror of the previous film, others, primarily Dr. Sam Loomis (Malcolm McDowell), have been profiting from Myers' exploits with the release of a book that chronicles Myers' brutality.

Then, to everyone's dismay, Myers comes back to town on Halloween night to finish what he started. From here, the bodies begin to pile up and the sadistic murder scenes continue to gain momentum; each one far more extreme than the one before it, almost to the point of exhaustion — emphasis on "almost," only because there is something savagely surreal in the way Zombie directs Myers' mayhem.

Zombie has a solid style for depicting brutality that few can replicate. His direction has a prominence here that is dominated by unique color schemes, surprisingly interesting angles and a raw expression that makes it all the more grisly.

The problem with this, as with many slasher films, is that it is not enough. No matter how provocative it may be for Myers to stab someone with a large kitchen knife, even capturing all of the terror considerably well, watching him do it more than 10 times to the same victim becomes

incredibly tiring.

Each murder is taken to the extreme, and while it works in some instances, loading the entire film with this mantra does not. Less killing would have been better for the film. That would have given Zombie more time and energy to develop the other characters as well as the overall plot.

Nothing really happens in "Halloween II" — nothing new anyway. Myers comes back to town, kills a lot of people and tries to reunite his family by making contact with his long-lost sister — quite similar to his actions in the first film. Add that to almost wretched dialogue in some scenes that is way too stereotypically corny, and the narrative of the film as a whole does not add up to much.

Zombie attempts to focus much of his film on the notion of family and the psychological effects it always has on an individual's personality, especially when that individual is mentally disturbed.

Some of the film's more interesting scenes try to convey the psychological trauma Myers endures, and provide a much-needed break from the killing. This is another clever aspect of the film that shows promise, but, similarly to Zombie's other fascinating attributes, it desperately needs further development.

Yes, "Halloween II" is a slasher film and there should be an emphasis on the slashing, but Zombie has the ability to make it much more than your typical slasher film. The fact that it only cuts at the surface is disappointing.

Zombie has talent; there is no doubt about it. His 2005 film "The Devil's Rejects" highlights his ambitious style of filmmaking, which continues to improve, but again the lack of story and blatant overexposure of graphic violence get in the way of his ability to fully control his determination

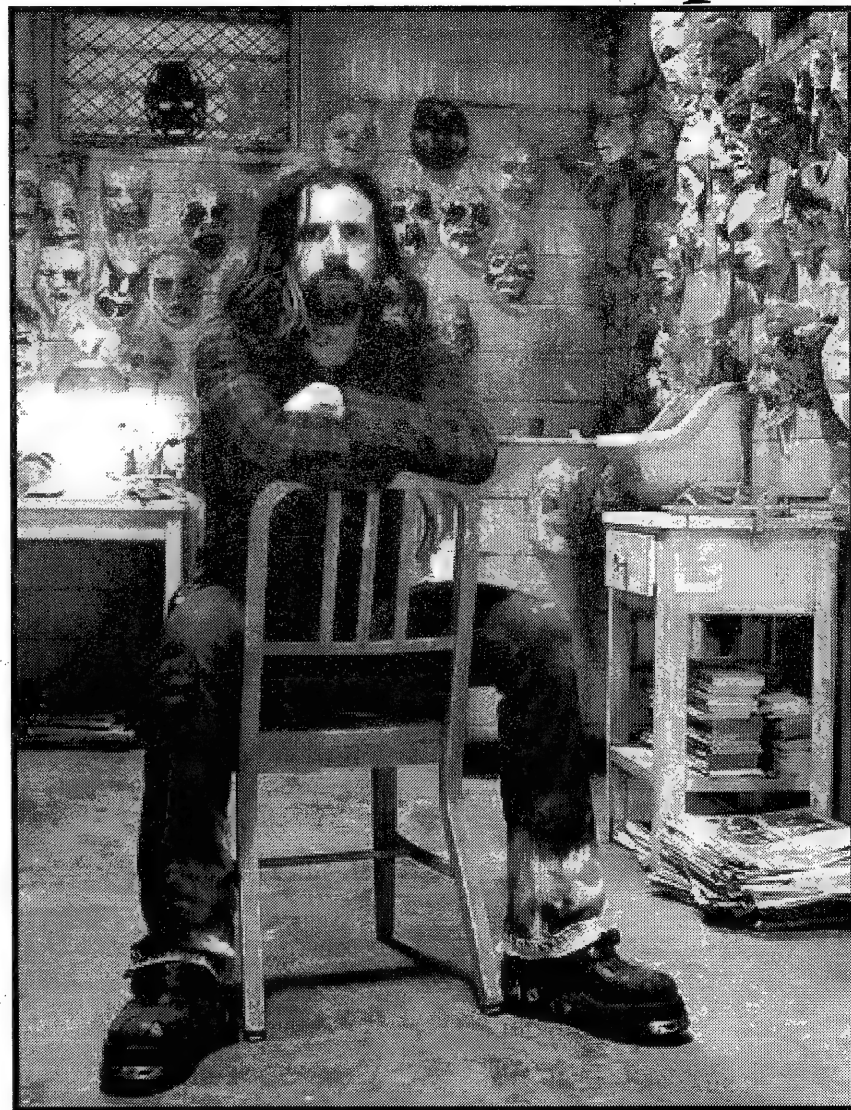


PHOTO COURTESY OF DREADCENTRAL.COM

and talent.

But if "Halloween II" says anything about its director, it is that he will one day make a good film that will be able to tie up all loose ends while satisfying his lust for blood. The real question is, how many meager offerings will audiences have to stomach before he does?

Uninspiring 'Woodstock' relies too much on cliches

BRANDON SPECKTOR
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT (U. ARIZONA)

This August marks the 40th anniversary of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, one of the most culturally romanticized and idolized fixtures in recent American history — and everyone knows once anything celebrates a decennial anniversary it's fair game to be labeled as trendy again.

Seizing this opportunity to instigate some nostalgia (or residual acid flashbacks, as the case may be), hit-or-miss cultural critic Ang Lee presents his newest film, "Taking Woodstock," a stereotyped pastiche of 1969 based on the book of the same name by Elliot Tiber, a man instrumental in the organization of the acclaimed concert.

It is important to distinguish right away that Lee's "Woodstock" is not a sensory-shaking retrospective of this most influential

and celebrated music festival. The director includes not a single scene of live music being performed, but rather focuses on the overall flavor and ideology behind the impromptu community of more than 500,000 flower children, rights activists and gurus of self-medication who converged on Yasgur's Farm for three mud-and drug-soaked days in upstate New York.

If it's the music of Woodstock you care most about (and, with a lineup featuring Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Creedence Clearwater Revival and The Who, why wouldn't you?) then don't waste your time with this oversimplified counterculture caricature. Rent the Martin Scorsese-edited 1970 documentary instead.

But if, like Ang Lee himself, you weren't around New York to experience the surge of Woodstock at the time, and are more interested in a sweeping impression of the

young, drug-addled festival-goer mindset, get ready to turn on, tune in and drop out.

"Taking Woodstock" tells the story of Elliot Tiber (born Elliot Teichberg and so referenced throughout the film), which is no doubt an interesting one despite allegations of fabrication.

Through the veil of a disappointingly drab performance by hipster funnyman Demetri Martin, Tiber's life is recalled in exaggerated detail from his involvement in the Greenwich Village gay scene (yep, Demetri's gay in this one — sorry ladies), to his role as Bethel Chamber of Commerce president and co-owner of the squalid El Monaco Motel, to his fortuitous poaching of the Woodstock Festival after it had been railroaded out of Wallkill, N.Y. by anti-hippie reactionaries.

Determined to build commerce for Bethel, Tiber directed Woodstock promoter Michael Lang (a vest-adorned flower child played expertly by Jonathan Groff who rides around on a white horse when not riding around in a helicopter) to the 600-acre farmland of Max Yasgur (a veritable chocolate milk alchemist played by Eugene Levy in one of his most refreshingly toned-down roles to date). Tiber wanted only to raise enough money from the event to prevent the foreclosure of the highway motel run by him and his cartoonishly Jewish parents, but what he got was a legitimate cultural revolution, coalesced from a countrywide smattering of love-and freedom-touting travelers.

The driving narrative of the film is the ill-omened organization of the festival and Tiber's attempts to accommodate both his parents and the gargantuan exodus of hippies at the El Monaco Motel and surrounding farmland, but the emotional impetus is Tiber's slow discovery of personal

happiness during selfless attempts to save his parents' livelihood. By dropping acid, engaging in orgies with strangers, and befriending flower-wearing cops and patrons alike, Tiber eventually finds that he is as much a part of the free-thinking Woodstock culture as he is the locally-maligned force behind it.

The aforementioned scenes of drug use, sexual experimentation and general hippie tomfoolery reflect the film's greatest strength: the artful portrayal of the primary hippie dogma that powered Woodstock — the pervading sentiment of community and nonviolent liberation that made the festival such a significant cultural moment.

Where this film fails, however (aside from totally glossing over the music, without which there would have been no event) is its lazy writing and reliance on outmoded cultural stereotypes. Tiber's parents are overt, almost offensive Jewish stereotypes, his Vietnam veteran buddy is a one-note war-addled wreck, his transvestite security chief (played by the muscle-y Liev Schreiber) is a shameless parody of him/herself, and the stuffy regime of Bethel elders are utterly detestable prudes.

Overall, "Taking Woodstock" is a panoramic snapshot of a landmark cultural happening taken by a man who was never there, and it shows. Lee succeeds at staying on point as far as the progressive ideology of the festival's fraternal fan base is concerned but comes close to compromising this utopian vision by peppering the cast with tired 1960s stereotypes and clichés. Give it a try if your ideal concert experience involves trippin' in a Volkswagen bus and losing yourself in an ocean of fellow flower followers; otherwise, you'll be duly disappointed when the bands never show up.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Be a part of Omaha's team: student ticket information and the UNO Bullpen

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

With the start of every fall semester, students often express confusion about the ticket policies for UNO athletic events.

To address these concerns, UNO athletics marketing intern Jawed Yusufi has released the ticket policy and information on the UNO Bullpen.

For the 2009-10 academic year, undergrad students receive one free ticket with their UNO MavCard. This ticket allows the student to attend all hockey, football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, wrestling, baseball and softball games.

Friends of students will not be admitted to games free of charge. They may purchase a discounted student ticket with a valid ID from their respective school.

"We wanted to get this information out to the students who have had questions about it," Yusufi said. "We want them to be a part of UNO athletics."

A new feature begins for the 2009 hockey season. Students will be able to skip the ticket window and go straight to the gates, where ticket takers will scan their MavCard for entrance. Your MavCard is your ticket. This feature will also be available for the basketball and wrestling season.

"The biggest thing is that there is no more waiting for students in ticket lines," Yusufi said. "I know in years past students waited in long lines, and with seats being general admission students can now skip the ticket lines and go straight to their seats."

For the 2009 football season, students must still visit one of two student ticket booths to receive a ticket into the game. The booths are located at the northwest and southeast gates. These tickets will be available up to one and a half hours before kickoff.

For volleyball games, students must present their MavCard to the ticket office located inside Sapp Fieldhouse. Tickets are available one hour before game time.

Students will also need their MavCards for soccer, baseball and softball tickets. Tickets are available one hour before game time.

Along with the ticket policy, Yusufi wants students to be aware of the UNO Bullpen.

Started in 2007, the UNO Bullpen is a way for UNO students to create unprecedented home field advantages for UNO athletic events.

With help from Metro Credit Union, the UNO Bullpen has become a popular group for students interested in supporting UNO athletics.

"With the UNO Bullpen, we want large student gatherings," Yusufi said. "We want to be Omaha's team, and we want the students to be a part of it, not just for the university but also for the city of Omaha."

On Aug. 27, the UNO Bullpen helped to create one of the largest student turnouts for a Maverick football game. Metro Credit Union provided giveaways to members of the UNO Bullpen, including an iPod Touch.

"Metro Credit Union has done a great job of sponsoring and partnering with the athletic department to make sure students have a fun time," Yusufi said.

To join the UNO Bullpen, students can visit the ticket office located inside Sapp Fieldhouse. You can also join via e-mail by sending your name, address and cell phone

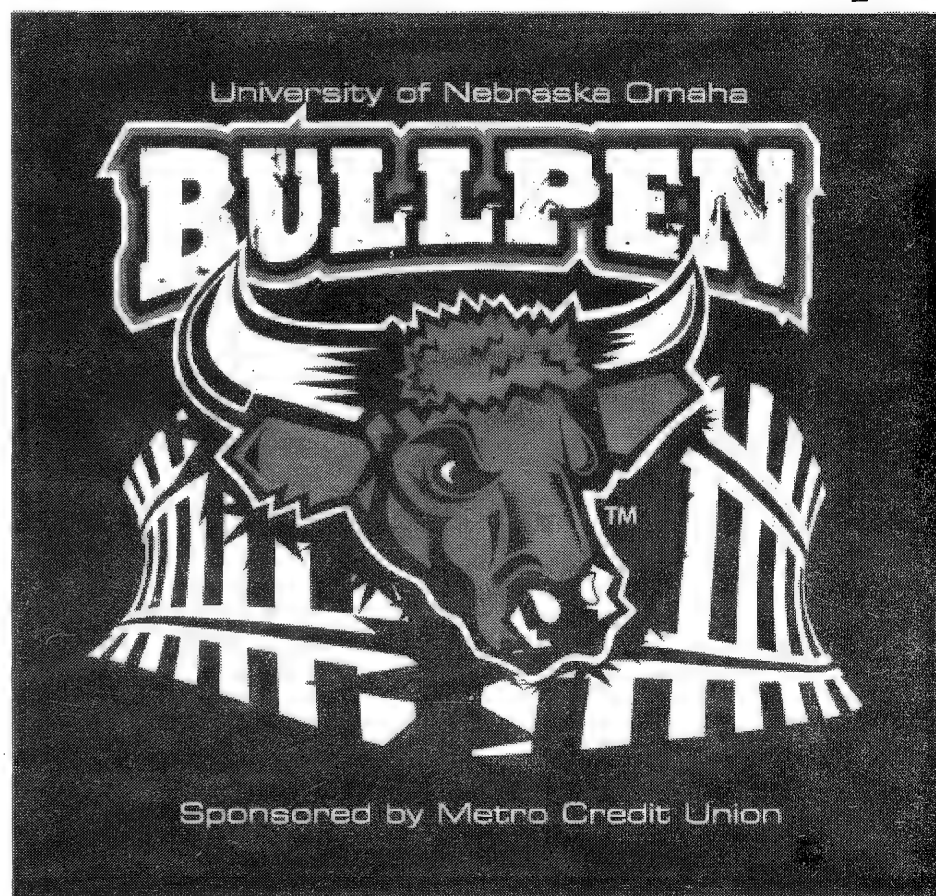


PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM/UNOBULLPEN

number to jyusufi@unomaha.edu. There is no charge to join the UNO Bullpen, and members receive free T-shirts and are eligible for giveaways and prize drawings. Members also receive breaking updates on all UNO athletics. The UNO Bullpen is on facebook at www.facebook.com/unobullpen.

Student-athletes will compete against UNO community in burrito run

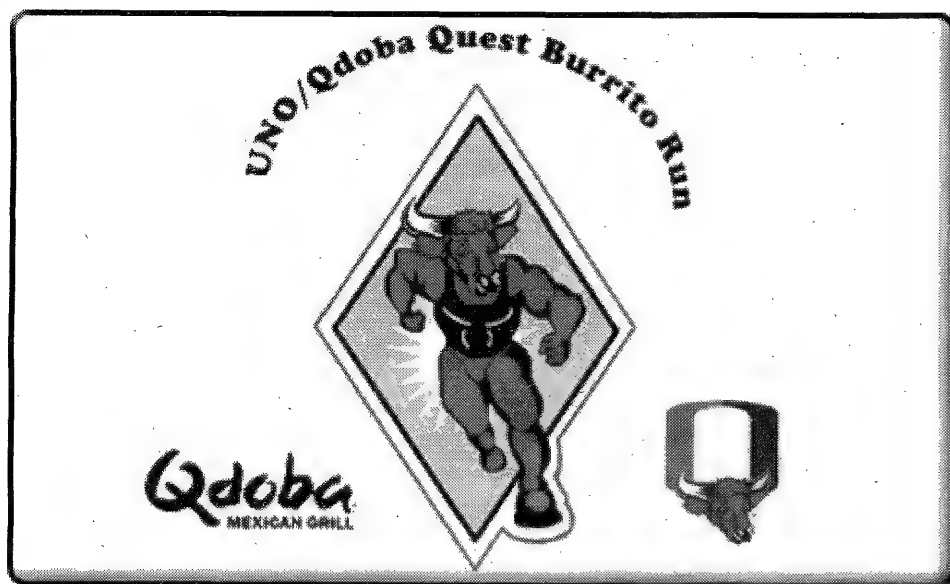


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNO ATHLETICS

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Members of the UNO community will compete against UNO student-athletes in a race to the finish line for a free year's worth of Qdoba Mexican Grill before the women's soccer team takes on Truman State University, Sept. 12.

The 5k UNO/Qdoba Quest Burrito Run - co-sponsored by UNO athletics and Qdoba - will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Henningson Memorial Campanile on UNO campus. Participants will then race to Qdoba, 1110 S. 71st St., and eat one burrito before attempting the final leg of the race.

There will be a men's and women's division, which will include a competitive and non-competitive class. Both classes will be timed, but the competitive runners will also be timed on the eating portion of the race.

After eating one burrito, participants will proceed to the UNO soccer field at the Chili Greens complex on Spring Street for the finish.

The event is free for UNO students, \$20 for UNO athletic season ticket holders and \$30 for non-UNO ticket holders. Participants will receive a free t-shirt, a burrito and a certificate for completing the race. To register, contact Matt Hansen at 402-554-3882 or by e-mail at mrhansen@unomaha.edu. Registrants will be asked to provide their name, address, e-mail address and phone number.

Following the race, the Mavericks will face-off against MIAA conference foes the Bulldogs on their home turf.

"We want as many people to come out there as possible, especially UNO students," said Jawed Yusufi, a UNO athletics marketing and ticketing intern.

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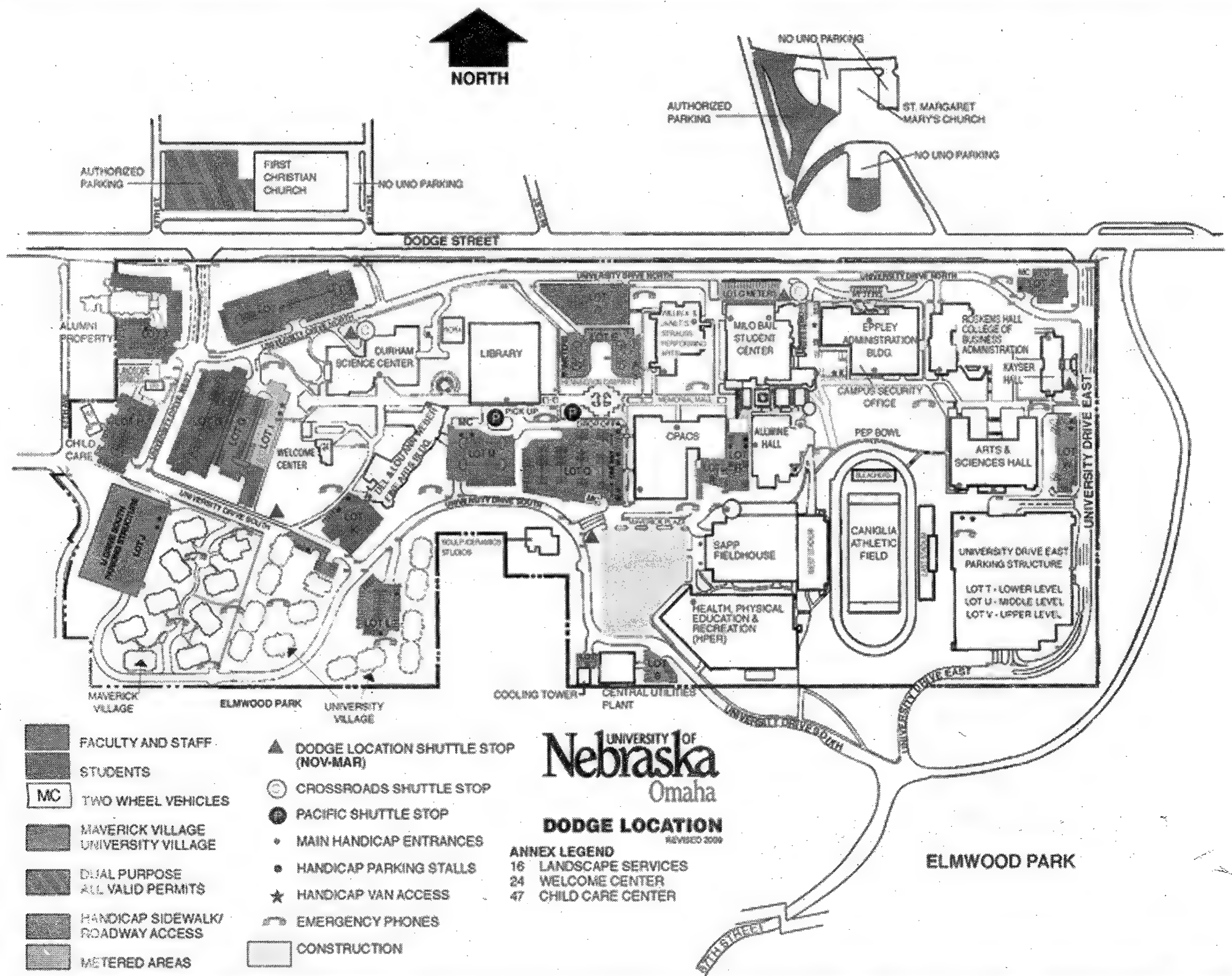


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Remote Parking: Crossroads Mall Parking Structure

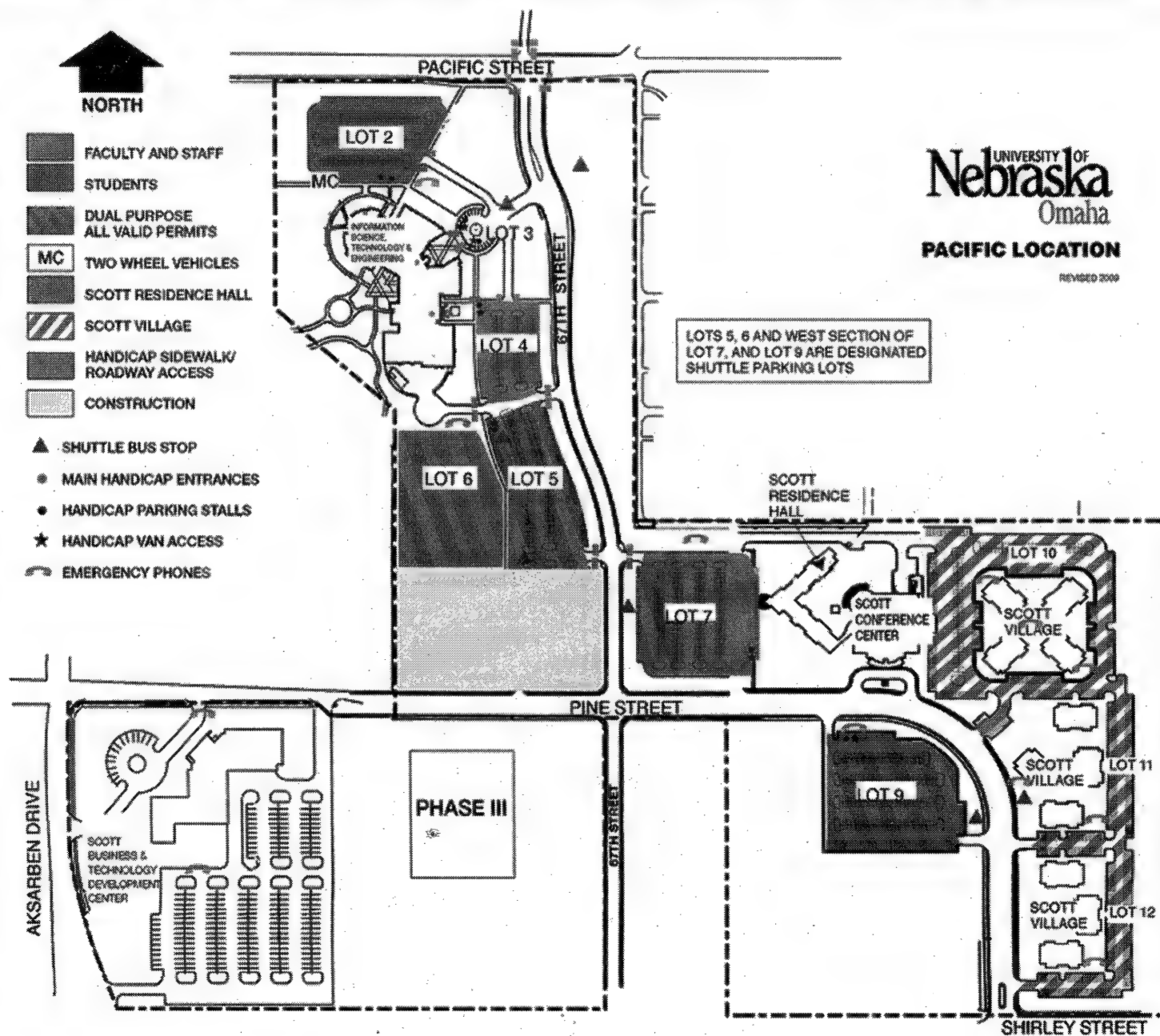
UNO Provides remote parking from the Crossroads Mall parking structure located at 72nd and Cass Streets. Hours are 7 am to 6 pm. Parking is permitted on levels 1,3,5 and 6 ONLY. (NOT levels 2,4 or in regular surface lots.) Shuttle service is provided free of charge and no permit is required.

Shuttle Busses load and unload at the southwest corner of the Crossroads Mall parking structure approximately every 15 minutes making stops ONLY north of the Durham Science Center and north of the Milo Bail Student Center. The shuttle Busses return directly to Crossroads after every stop at MBSC.

The Remote Parking shuttles will be marked to distinguish them from the shuttles Buses that service the Dodge Location.

Call Campus Security at 402.554.2648

Pacific Location



Shuttle Parking:

Pacific Location lots 5, 6, 7 and 9.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha provides shuttle parking at the Pacific Location between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A VALID PERMIT IS REQUIRED.

Shuttle Busses leave the Pacific Location and the UNO campuses approximately every 15 minutes. The Pacific Express shuttle will ONLY drop off at the northeast corner of lot Q (near the Bell tower) and pick up in the north end of lot M (lower level, south of the Library). On the Pacific Location, the shuttles will be making stops east of PKI (circle drive), in lots 5, 6, 7 and 9, west of Scott Village and east of PKI along 67th Street.

From November 1, 2009 to March 2010 (Spring Break), an inter-campus shuttle will operate from 6:30 A.M. to 10:30 P.M., Monday through Friday on the Dodge Location ONLY. The Shuttle will circle the Dodge Location, making short stops at the three-way intersection South of lot Q, West of lot K along University Drive South, North of the Durham Science Center, North of the Milo Bail Student Center and east of Kayser Hall.

The shuttle Busses load/unload in lots 5, 6, 7 and 9 at the Pacific location.

The Pacific Location shuttle Buses will be marked to distinguish them from the remote parking Buses that service the Crossroads Mall parking structure.

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(Valid all day)

\$59 Student Night ONLY
(Valid on campus after 12:30 p.m.)

\$139 GTA
(Restricted to Faculty/Staff lots ONLY)

\$70 Parking Structure Access Card, (if available)

Access to the University Drive East parking structure will be available for a fee of \$12 after 12:30 p.m. No parking permit is required after 12:30 p.m. in the parking structure.

Mavs lose six-year grip on Victory Bell, fall to UNK 31-

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mavs committed four turnovers, including three interceptions by senior quarterback Greg Wunderlich, en route to a 31-28 loss to interstate rival Nebraska-Kearney Saturday afternoon at Foster Field.

Despite being virtually even in total yards, the Mavs (1-1) committed many costly mistakes that gave the Lopers (1-1) the Victory Bell, awarded to the winner of the annual rivalry, for the first time in the last six tries.

The UNO offense relied mostly on

Wunderlich's arm as the Mavs only rushed for 75 net yards in the game. Wunderlich completed 24 of 39 passes for 293 yards and two touchdowns with three interceptions.

Junior running back Duane Bowen rushed for 51 yards on 14 attempts to lead the Mavs. Junior Bryce Hawthorne contributed 44 yards on 11 carries and one touchdown.

An error plagued the Mavs on their first possession when sophomore punter Jason Schlautman watched the snap fly over his head. He was tackled at UNO's 12 yard line, putting UNK in striking distance. The Mavs held the Lopers out of the end

zone until quarterback Jake Spitzlberger completed a 4-yard touchdown pass to Rustin Dring on fourth down.

The Mavs tied the game early in the second quarter with a 13-play, 91-yard drive capped off by a 24-yard run by Hawthorne for his first touchdown as a Maverick.

The Lopers responded on their next possession, marching 74 yards on 11 plays to regain the lead 14-7 on a 32-yard leaping touchdown grab by Kyle Kaiser.

After a Mavs punt, the Lopers strung together an 11-play, 75-yard drive with Spitzlberger scoring on a 1-yard run to put UNK up 21-7 going into halftime.

The second half started better for the Mavs when redshirt freshman cornerback Micah Fisher ran back a UNK fumble 15 yards for the touchdown to cut the lead to 21-14 with 10:40 left in the third quarter.

The Lopers answered right away with another long drive, 12 plays for 80 yards, when kicker Jordan Alegria hammered in a 27-yard field goal to push the lead to 10.

The Mavs were moving the ball well on their ensuing possession, marching to the Lopers' 27 yard line before Wunderlich was intercepted by UNK's Jake Mandelko. The Lopers' took advantage with a 50-yard strike to Kaiser to put UNK in Mavs territory at the 26 yard line. After some short runs and a delay of game penalty, the Lopers missed an opportunity to extend the lead when Alegria hit the upright on a 40-yard field goal attempt.

After a 33-yard pass to junior tight end Mike Higgins, Wunderlich found redshirt freshman Tyler Oberembt for a 20-yard touchdown pass to cut the lead to 24-21.

The Mavs had a chance to tie the game with 4:44 in the fourth quarter when junior kicker Greg Zuerlein missed wide right on a 44-yard attempt.

After a Lopers punt, Wunderlich threw an interception to UNK's Colby Henderson who returned it 34 yards to the Mavs' 1 yard line. The Lopers punched it in on the next play to give them a 31-21 lead with 1:10 left in the game.

The Mavs put together a quick scoring drive capped with a 14-yard touchdown pass to freshman Jonathan Patent before UNK ran out the clock for the 31-28 final score.

Kaiser had an impressive game for the Lopers, catching eight balls for 173 yards and one touchdown.

The Mavs open conference play Sept. 12 when Truman State visits UNO at Caniglia Field for a 6 p.m. kickoff.



The Mavs fell to Nebraska-Kearney 31-28 on Saturday. UNO returns home to open MIAA play against Truman State on Saturday at 6 p.m. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Maverick cross country team keeps steady pace at Creighton/UNO Classic

SEAN OWENS
STAFF WRITER

In 2009, the UNO cross country team will rely heavily on the legs of youth and inexperience to lead the way. With six freshmen added to the roster this season, the learning curve is expected to be at a gradual pace.

The team opened its season last Saturday at the Creighton/UNO Classic in Omaha, competing against Creighton University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and York College. The Mavericks sent just six runners to compete amongst the pack of 24, but managed to produce two of the top nine finishers in the race in route to a third-place team finish behind second-place Creighton and first-place UNL.

UNL placed the first five finishers in the race, with the top time of 18:57.60 posted by sophomore Erica Hamik. The UNL team victory at the invitational was the fourth in the last five years, finishing second to Augustana College (S.D.) in 2008. UNO freshmen Brittany Phillips and Megan Oddo led the way for the Mavericks during the race, finishing in eighth and ninth place respectively. Phillips, a former Millard West standout, finished with a time of 20:30.81, just less than 19 seconds from a top-five finish. Though being only a freshman, the Omaha native said she was happy that she could help lead her team.

"It felt good," Phillips said. "I'm used to running a [4,000 meter], so it was a little different for me running the [5,000 meter]. But it was nice to place well in my first meet."

Finishing on the heels of Phillips with a time of 20:37.35, Oddo, a former Millard North standout, was just less than seven seconds from topping her once-high school rival. When asked about the move from being Millard contenders to being UNO allies, Phillips had nothing but respect for her former competitor.

"It's interesting that I can say I have [Oddo] as a team-

mate now," Phillips said. "We were opponents last year, but now we are good friends. We have a good bond with everybody on the team."

Adding to the list of freshmen finishers, Park University (Mo.) redshirt transfer Dina Luka posted a 14th place finish, while North Platte native Nicole Behm finished just behind her in 15th. Closing out the race for the Mavericks, freshman Zenah Chepkwony from Eldoret, Kenya, took a 19th place finish, followed by junior Lisa Tesarek finishing in 23rd.

On Sept. 19 the team will continue their trek towards the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Championship when they compete at the Woody Greeno/Nebraska Invitational at Pioneer Park in Lincoln, Neb.



Freshmen Brittany Phillips and Zenah Chepkwony take an early lead on UNL's eventual front runners. (SEAN OWENS/THE GATEWAY)

Women's Triathlon a Success

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO swimming and diving team hosted the Methodist Hospital/UNO Women's Triathlon on Aug. 29 at the Wehrspann Lake / Chalco Hills Recreation Area. The event was a fundraiser for the UNO swimming and diving team's upcoming season and also provided many women the opportunity to test their athletic endurance in the non-competitive event.

"It was an awesome event," head coach Todd Samland said. "We achieved our goals and we were happy with the results."

Samland said that 460 registrants participated in the event that included swimming, biking and running.

"We try to offer an opportunity for women to get involved and do a triathlon," Samland said.

Many registrants were first-timers to a triathlon, and Samland made sure that he and his swimming and diving team were helping people have a good time.

"We took down a few of the barriers that can hold people back from entering a triathlon," Samland said. "We made it flexible, and also took away the competitive component. The first-timers really enjoy that, and it's really helped us a lot."

SEE TRIATHLON: PAGE 17

Soccer: Mavs stumble out of the gate, start season 1-3

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mavs faced a tough road journey to begin the 2009 season and are heading back home with an overall record of 1-3.

UNO traveled to Colorado to play their first two games of the season against third-ranked Metro State and the Colorado School of Mines. After falling to both teams, the Mavs took their 0-2 overall record to Kirksville, Mo., where they took on Central Oklahoma and Saint Edward's in the Truman State University Classic. The Mavs defeated Central Oklahoma but lost to Saint Edward's to finish the road trip 1-3.

Metro State, L 1-3

The Mavs traveled to Denver to take on third-ranked Metro State on Aug. 28 at Auraria Field.

The Roadrunners took early control of the game with a goal by Jen Thomas 11:17 into the game. Ashley Nemmers followed up with a goal at 25:54 to put Metro State up 2-0 by halftime.

The lead for Metro State grew to 3-0 when Thomas put her second goal into the net at 60:53 in the match. UNO got on the board when senior middle fielder Lindsey Nealon scored an unassisted goal at 70:29.

The Mavs only mustered five shots total as opposed to Metro State which put together 18 total shots and seven shots on goal. Metro State held a 6-2 advantage in corner kicks.

Junior goalkeeper Lauren Fox led UNO with three

saves while senior Elizabeth Odorisio contributed one. Each goalkeeper played one half, with Odorisio getting the start.

Colorado School of Mines, L 1-2

After the loss to Metro State, UNO traveled to Golden, Colo., to take on the undefeated Colorado School of Mines on Aug. 30. The two schools had never met previously.

Jessica Stark put the Orediggers in front 1-0 with a goal at 15:46. After a lull in the scoring, Erin Onat added a goal at 54:12 to put CSM up 2-0.

The Mavericks scored in the 63rd minute off a Jerica Kuncel penalty kick to cut the lead to 2-1 CSM. UNO was unable to put a shot on goal for the rest of the game.

The Orediggers outshot UNO 13-8 and held a 7-3 edge in corner kicks.

Goalkeepers Odorisio and Fox each played a half, giving up a goal each. Fox led with three saves.

Central Oklahoma, W 5-2

Friday's game against Central Oklahoma saw the UNO offense finally come alive as the Mavs looked to end their two-game losing streak to start the season.

The Mavs came out hot with a goal by redshirt freshman forward Nicole Baier only 5:57 into the game. The goal was Baier's first in her UNO career, but she wasn't quite done.

After controlling most of the pitch, UNO scored again with a goal by senior forward Jessica Powers at 47:59 to put the Mavs up 2-0.

Baier punched in her second goal of the game at 61:11

before Central Oklahoma got on the board with a header by Brittini Walker less than two minutes later to cut the lead to 3-1.

Powers scored her second goal shortly thereafter at 66:42, and Baier completed the hat trick by scoring her third goal in the 76th minute. Central Oklahoma put in a late goal to end the game 5-2.

Goalkeepers Odorisio and Fox each played a half in net. Fox allowed both of OCU's goals.

The Mavs held a 22-9 shot advantage.

St. Edward's University, L 0-4

The Mavs wrapped up the Truman Labor Day Classic and their season-opening road trip with a loss against 23rd-ranked St. Edward's University.

St. Edward's scored first on a goal by Stacey Copeland at 18:21 in the first half. Copeland later added her second goal of the game at 51:42 to put the Hilltoppers up 2-0.

Kelly Servage scored a goal at 61:43 and another at 87:20 to give the Hilltoppers a 4-0 advantage.

The Mavs offense struggled to get on the board despite holding the edge in corner kicks 6-4. Only three of the Mavs' 13 shots were on goal.

Odorisio and Fox split time once again at goalkeeper. Odorisio led with four saves and only one goal against. Fox gave up the other three goals.

The Mavs return home on Sept. 10 to take on Missouri Western at the UNO soccer field. The game has a 4 p.m. start time.

UNO Volleyball sweeps Showcase Tournament

TODD HANSEN
STAFF WRITER

Before the 2009 volleyball season started, Head Coach Rose Shires said the UNO Volleyball Showcase tournament was without a doubt a key stretch of games for the young team. After a 4-0 start, Shires has to like what she has been seeing.

UNO opened the season with a 3-0 sweep against Tarleton State. The Mavs got off to a hot start going up 6-0 in the first set. They went on to take the set 25-15 and dominated the second set 25-12. The

Mavs trailed most of the third set but pulled away for a 25-21 victory. Sophomore Brittany Hanssen led the Mavs with 11 kills and senior Ellen Thommes had 4 blocks. Sophomore Emily Myers led the team with 37 assists while adding 11 digs. Senior Kelli Goesser and sophomore Lizzy Mach both added nine kills. Goesser also put the match away with a kill in the final play of the game.

UNO's second match of the tournament pitted them against Abilene Christian. This one was a little tighter and UNO trailed late into each set. Down 18-13 in set one, Myers served five straight points to pull

even. An Abilene attack error eventually ended the set with the Mavs taking it 30-28. The Mavs used a 7-1 run to take set two 25-20. The team fought back once again in the final set and completed the sweep with

a 25-22 game. Goesser led the team with 13 kills and Thommes led the tournament field after day one with a .515 attack percentage. Sophomore Angie Reicks led the Mavs with 18 digs and Myers registered 33 assists.

The third match of the Showcase Tournament had UNO losing its first set of the year. Dallas Baptist proved to be a formidable opponent, taking the second set 25-21 and evening the match after the Mavs took the first set 25-19. However, Rose Shires' team didn't panic and comfortably took the next two sets 25-18 and 25-14 respectively. Thommes and Junior Kayla Uhing led the team with 13 kills apiece. Myers once again led the Mavs with 40 assists and Reicks added 11 digs.

The final match of the weekend was another sweep for UNO as they beat North Alabama 25-15, 25-21 and 25-13. The Lions held a lead several times during the second set but an 8-0 Maverick run gave UNO momentum and eventually the set. Goesser had another 11 kills and Thommes

added 10 more. Myers kept her hot play going and once again led the team with 32 assists. She also added six kills and Reicks led the team again with 14 digs.

The Mavs (4-0) joined Emporia State as the only teams in the eight team field to go undefeated during the Showcase tournament. Thommes led the tournament field with a .480 hitting percentage and Goesser led the team with 3.38 kills per set.

For her play, Myers was named MIAA specialist of the week. She collected more than 30 assists in each of the four wins for the Mavericks. She was second in the tournament field with 10.92 assists per set and was also 10th with 2.92 digs per set. Myers also played the net well hitting 13 kills with a .500 percentage.

Myers was not the only player honored after a successful weekend. Thommes was named the Nebraska Division II volleyball player of the week after her effort in the opening tournament. She made few errors all weekend and is hit 3.15 kills per set.

FROM TRIATHLON: PAGE 16


The swimming and diving team was on hand to help run the event and to meet with fans.

"They helped run the event and remained very visible," Samland said. "It helps with putting faces with the team and getting our name out there."

While Methodist Hospital has been a sponsor of the event before, it wasn't until Methodists' recent partnership with the UNO Athletic Department that they became a title sponsor for the event.

"They've done a great job helping us," Samland said.

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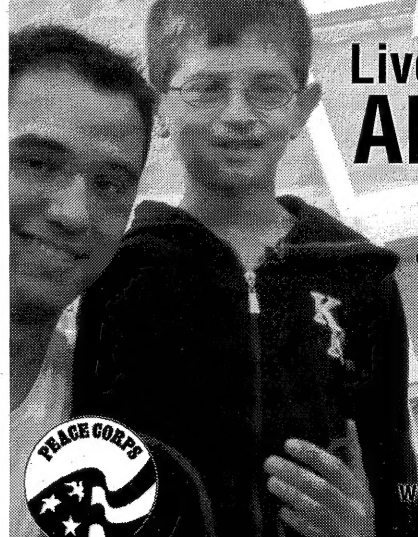
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UNO's bike sharing program is important baby step

UNO's decision to implement a bicycle share program is a good step towards much-needed attention to this gas-free mode of transportation. Anything that might speed up the bike-friendly nature of the city would be greatly welcome. At present, riding one's bike down the street is at best a life-endangering situation, given there are no considerate drivers around.

While UNO's program is still in an early phase of conception with only eight bikes in its fleet, the fact that there are people in power to act on such an idea shows the potential for its future growth. There aren't many cities that have bike shares, and those that do are either working to fight problems with their system of implementation or reaping some very big benefits.

If the bike share idea were to catch on and spread, the consequences could be very positive for Omaha's transportation and economic outlooks. From the many possible programs that could be adopted on a city-wide basis, all are expensive up front, a barrier UNO is no doubt dealing with.

However, an up-front investment would provide long-term income and revitalize a slumping city economy through advertising, use revenue, as well as an increase in tourism and incoming families.

Paris has put thousands of bikes on the road for shared use and is under threat of failure due to high thefts. Despite this, there are sharing programs popping up around the world, especially the U.S., with different strategies for effectiveness.

Boston is gearing up to put 2,500 bikes on the road for shared use. At a cost of thousands of dollars per bike – factoring in long-term maintenance – such a task could certainly be a burden on an already struggling economy. However, according to various studies conducted on the issue, most notably that by New York City (available at nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/transportation/td_bike_share.shtml), those programs with low up-front investments in bicycles and infrastructure for drop-offs and pick-ups are the fastest to fail. With a setup like UNO's eight-bike share, all it would take is one determined individual to compromise the whole program.

The tendency, of course, is to trust our peers on campus. However, even situations where hundreds of bikes are released have failed. Portland, Oregon tried the concept in the '90s and failed. Paris's 20,600 bikes are still not invulnerable to theft despite almost 1,500 stations that provide security and make returning them easy.

When bike shares do work there are obvious benefits of increased community health, activity and as well as fewer cars on the road, which equates to a healthier breathing environment. These benefits can be difficult to quantify for investors or tax payers who would be asked for possibly millions to start a share program, but there is also the potential for millions of dollars in yearly advertising revenue.

New York City's study estimates that a 10,500 bike

program would bring in just over \$19 million a year from ads on bikes and bike stations, not to mention membership and use fees, typically allowing your first 30 minutes free – long enough to travel many places in Omaha.

A program of such magnitude is far above the capabilities of UNO alone, but if the City of Omaha seriously considered a bike sharing program, the result could be an additional millions for the budget.

If the size of New York City's study causes skepticism as to how successful a much smaller version would operate in Omaha, consider the substantially higher construction costs in New York City – some thousands of dollars simply to research the best installation for a single unit. Omaha benefits from being open and comparably less congested with above- and below-ground obstacles.

Omaha's grid-like street layout would also be a significant cost-saving feature. Instead of building a large network of bike paths, a feat the city is already working on, we could take advantage of our street planning and coordinate east-west and north-south roads to be bike-use only, still equipped with stop lights and other safety measures.

New York City's Department of Transportation started "Summer Streets," a program in which large sections of streets are limited to bicycles for only six-hour periods on select days. Many states have also stepped up their treatment of bicyclers to be equivalent to cars in regard to the following of traffic laws and impaired driving standards. Combining a broader view of bicycles as legitimate vehicles with a revised street plan could turn Omaha into a largely car-free community.

A set of streets permanently designated as bike traffic only might seem over the top at first, but this could be transitioned into by alternating roads daily or weekly to avoid limiting traffic in any one neighborhood. A concern might be that Omaha's already crowded commuter streets like Dodge would suffer, but the possibility of removing cars in the first place could resolve that problem altogether.

The weather in Omaha could also deter support for such a plan, but in pilot cities such as New York, Washington, D.C., and Paris, equally bitter winters indicate a sustained use. The worst days of snow or rain would certainly slow



CARTOON BY ERIK PETERSON

down bike traffic, but the transition to a remodeled transit system could also emphasize regular bus routes to augment weather conditions.

The results of UNO's experiment might be discouraging if all eight bikes are stolen and whatever investment that was made goes down the drain, but it's good to know there are cities much larger than Omaha that are finding ways to make bike sharing realistic and highly profitable. Instead of putting money into a small bike sharing program that has been shown in other cities to fail, why not instead organize a study similar to New York City's, completed by various departments on campus, to investigate the best way to implement such a program?

Clearly the best way to start bike sharing is to go all in or not at all. UNO's eight-bike program is a good-hearted effort, but the potential for any success beyond a handful of people finding healthy recreation on campus is limited. Bike sharing should be looked at as a realistic option for reducing automobile traffic, improving air quality and improving Omaha's image as a city that is concerned with staying on top of energy efficiency and creative ways to produce financial income.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the UNO Students:

We have just completed the 20th year of Welcome Week, an event that originated as a way to express to returning students that we are glad to see them and to say hello to new students. With the help of many staff and faculty the event has grown annually. I personally had the opportunity to interact with the students, and it was gratifying to hear how many said please and thank you, and to see how much they appreciated the food and the effort that goes into putting on the event. We look forward to hosting Welcome Week 2010 and wish you the best of luck in your academic pursuits this year.

Jim Welch
Director Milo Bail Student Center



CARTOON BY ERIK PETERSON

Debate on abortion rights hits close to home

Information key to abortion choice

On August 29, 2009, Nebraska passed a law that placed it on the front lines of a national debate. Nebraska is requiring doctors who perform abortions to display the ultrasound of the fetus where the women can easily view it. While the state is not the first to pass such a law, Nebraska has the strongest wording. Other states merely require the doctor to ask the patient if they would like to see it.

Oklahoma's stronger law was overturned this past April. Their doctors had to not only display the images, but to describe to the woman what she was seeing. Judge Vicki Robertson overturned the law before it went into effect, stating that it went against the Oklahoma Constitution.

All this, in the midst of the spotlight that's been turned on Bellevue, Neb., thanks to Dr. LeRoy Carhart, founder of the Abortion & Contraception Clinic of Nebraska. When his colleague and friend, Dr. George Tiller of Wichita, Kan., was killed on May 31, Carhart started performing third trimester abortions to replace Tiller's services for Midwestern women.

While many physicians agree that there is little medical reason for these ultrasounds, there is another motive behind them. The organization Focus on the Family believes that around 65 percent of women who see their ultrasound will not follow through with their abortion as Jim Daly, their president, revealed in a guest post on the US News & World Report's God & Country blog.

I am pro-life and always have been, so anything that could cause people to stop abortions is good in my eyes. However, even those who are pro-choice should see that this law is a good thing. To start, most pro-choice individuals are not "pro-abortion." I really doubt anyone truly is - that would be to believe that all pregnancies should be aborted.

"Choice" is the key component of that ethical and political standpoint. They believe women have a right to choose what happens to their bodies and unborn children. What this law will do is give women - sometimes very desperate, uninformed women - a little bit more information before they make a life-altering and life-ending choice.

Pro-choice supporters don't want a woman to have a child she doesn't want or would regret having. One could assume that they would also wouldn't want a woman to

have an abortion she would regret having.

Abortion is not getting rid of an unwanted group of tissues and cells; it is ending a human life, however tiny or unwanted that life may be. By the third week after conception, the baby's brain, spinal cord, heart and other organs begin forming. Four weeks into the pregnancy, the baby's heart will pump blood through its tiny body, in addition to having basic facial features.

By the time a woman knows she is pregnant, by the time she goes to an abortion clinic, that girl or woman is carrying another human inside her.

Many of the women who go to an abortion

clinic are in a bad situation: they are too young, they are too poor or they are too alone to have or raise a child. Others simply just want the "problem" gone before anyone can tell, or they are being pushed by their significant other.

It is said that "desperate times call for drastic measures," but more than that they call for information, for answers and for seeing and knowing as much as they can about what they're giving up before they make that final choice.

If a woman awaiting the abortion of her child sees the ultrasound or hears the baby's heartbeat and realizes she cannot go through with it, then abortion was not the right decision for her in the first place. At the time of an abortion the patient might just see it as a means to an end or as the way to get rid of a problem, but at some point they will come to terms with the fact that they ended a life and that they stopped a heartbeat. It is much better to define what they're parting with before they can't stop, before there is no choice.



Katey Swinarski

A call for sensitivity and freedom

The Nebraska State Legislature recently passed a bill that requires doctors to display a sonogram when women go in for an abortion. The doctor must display the sonogram even if the woman doesn't ask to see it. The doctor then must inform the woman of the risks associated with abortion - risks that are in fact fewer than those of pregnancy itself.

Supporters of the new bill believe it is a critical step in eventually overturning Roe v. Wade, but people like me, who support a woman's right to make choices about her body, find it baffling.

Why? Because from everything I've read by supporters, it seems the only purpose of this bill is to make women feel guilty about themselves, and that's not okay. The bill smacks of insensitivity and, above all, futility, as it will not lower the number of abortions.

To do that, you need widespread, affordable contraception, high-quality sex education and better economic conditions. All of these will reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies and make life more congenial for everyone.

To state the obvious, getting an abortion is an extremely difficult choice. It is a choice that need not be made more difficult by legal hurdles and guilt-mongering.

In the time since the sonogram law went into effect, I've been thinking a lot about how to respond. While we should definitely fight this through the political process, we can do something that will have an even bigger impact: we can change our culture to make it more tolerant of women's rights.

If we make it so that women's reproductive freedoms are accepted rather than denigrated, all the guilt laws in the

world won't make a difference. If we leave the decision to abort up to a woman and her doctor, not in the hands of religiously-motivated activists, then the new

sonogram law won't matter.

Pro-lifers claim a woman who gets an abortion will one day deeply regret her choice, that she may spiral into a clinical depression marked by loneliness and guilt over the aborted fetus. This is what makes anti-abortionists consider a sonogram law an important check mark in their agenda. If they can make every woman who seeks an abortion see an ultrasound of her fetus, they reason, then she will feel that guilt before the abortion instead of years down the road.

But anti-abortionists fail to understand one critical fact about the human psyche: our thoughts create our feelings. If we consciously choose not to regret something, then we aren't going to feel any guilt. And this is what I suggest to every woman -

that she make her own decision regardless of outside pressure and feel good about herself whether she chooses to carry the baby to term or not.

Of course, this is an extremely sensitive subject. I do not doubt for a moment the sincerity with which pro-lifers fight against abortion, sincerity that is hopefully based on a genuine compassion for all human

beings, not just fetuses.

Like pro-lifers, I understand the preciousness of life. But I also understand the preciousness of the freedom to make one's own decisions unfettered by the ideologies of others - ideologies to which not everyone subscribes.

And believe it or not, I long for a world without abortion. I long for a world where no one is raped or molested. I long for a world where first-rate sexual education (read: not abstinence-only) prevails. I long for a world where everyone has access to free or affordable contraceptives and the knowledge to use them correctly. I long for a world where every child is the natural result of love, not of violence or poor decision-making.

Above all, I long for a world where everyone who wants a child can afford to raise her, feed her quality food, give her a good education and provide her adequate health coverage.

If this sounds utopian, that's because it is - only in a utopia can abortion be abolished.



Tom McCauley



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT

Obama's education speech is cause for dispute

EDITORIAL BOARD
THE ORACLE (UWIRE)

Protests against President Barack Obama seem to be getting louder every day, and some conservative leaders are now challenging the president over the most banal actions.

Obama will deliver a speech Sept. 8 directly to students in America's schools. In a letter sent to school principals, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said Obama would remind students of the importance of an education.

"The president will challenge students to work hard, set educational goals and take responsibility for their learning," Duncan said.

Democrats and Republicans should be able to agree with the president on the importance of education, and it is difficult to imagine why such a speech would provoke partisan debate.

Republican Party of Florida Chairman Jim Greer condemned the speech in a press release Tuesday, calling it "Obama's attempt to indoctrinate students."

"The idea that school children across our nation will be forced to watch the president justify his plans for government-run health care, banks and automobile companies, increasing taxes on those who create jobs and racking up more debt than any other president, is not only infuriating, but goes against beliefs of the majority of Americans, while bypassing American parents through an invasive abuse of power," Greer said.

Greer is trying to provoke a confrontation by bringing up partisan issues that have absolutely nothing to do with Obama's speech. What is most surprising is that nowhere in the press release does Greer even mention that the speech is on education.

Greer believes the president is trying to infiltrate the schools because "the Democrats have clearly lost the battle

to maintain control of the message this summer."

Political debate in this country should not become a shouting contest, where the side that shouts the loudest wins. While conservatives have plenty of reasons to disagree with Obama's policies, there is nothing objectionable about this speech. Tommy Vietor, a White House spokesman, explained the speech in an interview with foxnews.com.

"The goal of the speech and the lesson plans is to challenge students to work hard in school, to not drop out and to meet short-term goals like behaving in class, doing their homework and goals that parents and teachers alike can agree are noble," he said. "This isn't a policy speech. This is a speech designed to encourage kids to stay in school."

It is hard for healthy debate to occur when Republican leaders react so adversely to issues that should have bipartisan support.

Take care when considering H1N1 flu virus vaccination

AARON MERTEN
THE MIAMI STUDENT (UWIRE)

H1N1 could possibly be the biggest news at Miami University of Ohio right now. Hearing about friends catching swine flu and how quickly it's been spreading across campus certainly has students and faculty worried.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a vaccine is currently in human test trials and should be released by mid-October. The CDC also states that only select groups will be receiving the vaccine at first, due to the limited number to be released in the first batches of the vaccine. One group is individuals ranging from 6 months to 24 years old. This means Miami University students could be among the first in line to receive the vaccine.

On its Web site, the Miami University Student Health Services states, "Miami will institute a vigorous immunization campaign as soon as the vaccine is available."

They also send this note, "Parents and students: We strongly encourage this immunization! Parents, please encourage your student to get this vaccination. This needs to be a priority in the student's busy life, because immunization is the single most reliable method to stay free of this infection and to slow its spread in our community!"

A vaccine seems like the perfect solution to this World Health Organization classified pandemic, but there's resistance against it just like any other vaccine. Many people believe that vaccines are unnatural, that our body is supposed to fight off diseases on its own. Vaccines are intended to build immunity to harmful organisms that can cause disease, but some of the ingredients included in vaccines have proved harmful in the past. Ingredients called "adjuvants" are added to some vaccines in order to quicken the response the body has to the injected vaccine. The adjuvants used by the companies contracted by the government to create a H1N1 vaccine have not been approved by the FDA. Also, when tested on rats, they have caused a type of arthritis.

These adjuvants may cause several different autoimmune diseases, in which your cells began attacking normal-functioning organs and tissue.

The Times Online reported that a warning about the swine flu vaccine was leaked to the press July 29. Written by Elizabeth Miller, head of the Health Protection Agency's Immunization Department, the article warns neurologists the influenza vaccine of 1976 was linked to a devastating neurological condition called Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS).

She stated, "the vaccines used to combat an expected swine influenza pandemic in 1976 were shown to be

associated with GBS and were withdrawn from use."

Hilary Wilkinson was stricken with GBS and had to be fed through a drip while requiring a tracheotomy just to breathe. It took her three months in the hospital to learn how to walk and talk again. She said, "It makes me feel wary that the government is rolling out this vaccine without any clear idea of the GBS risk, if any. I wouldn't wish it on anyone ... I'm frightened to have the swine flu vaccine if this might happen again - it's a frightening illness and I think more research needs to be done on the effect of the vaccine."

A second letter has also surfaced with a warning about the swine flu vaccine, which was reported by Natural News. This warning from Association of British Neurologists is authored by Rustam Al-Shahi Salman and Patrick Chinnery. It states, "Following the 1976 program of vaccination against swine influenza in the US, a retrospective study found a possible eight-fold increase in the incidence of GBS."

Australian officials seem to have a completely different idea about H1N1. Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon is reassuring parents in Australia that swine flu is no more dangerous than the regular flu. "Most people, including children, will experience very mild symptoms and recover without any medical intervention," she said.

According to www.PreventDisease.com, in both Canada and the United States, it takes a little over a decade for a drug to move from preclinical development to the marketplace.

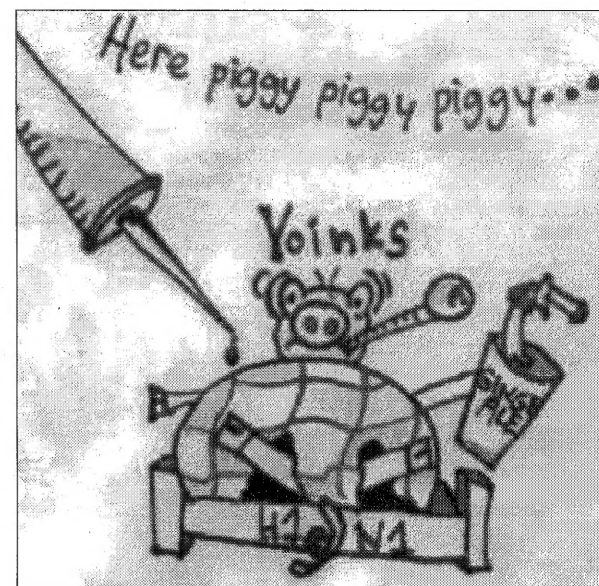
Before a vaccine enters human testing, the developer conducts laboratory (in vitro) and laboratory animal (in vivo) testing to determine whether the product will be safe enough for researchers to proceed to clinical trials. With the H1N1 vaccines, the FDA never even approved the use of the vaccine in human trials.

Vaccine production has been rushed, and of course no long-term effects have had time to surface since it's been in only short trials thus far. A statement from the National Biodefense Science Board (BDSD) said the reason the flu vaccine has been developed so fast is because they have already developed many like it. They claim it's a type A H1N1 virus, and that it's already included in the seasonal flu every year, they just need to determine the appropriate dosage.

For now, just follow the precautions, which can be found on almost any news or medical Web site, and do what you can to stop the spread. Sanitation and maintaining a strong immune system are two of the most common recommendations listed.

I recommend everyone do at least a little of research into this disease and its upcoming vaccine before letting yourself be injected.

Swine flu threats heavily exaggerated



EDITORIAL BOARD
INDEPENDENT FLORIDA ALLIGATOR (UWIRE)

The government is acting like back-to-school season will somehow resemble "28 Days Later."

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology claims that a Swine Flu epidemic has the potential to cause up to 90,000 deaths and leave 1.8 million Americans hospitalized, a statistic that has erupted a bit of a panic.

Even though the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released a counter-statement claiming that the death tolls would likely not be that high, and the number of deaths thus far does not suggest a future zombie apocalypse, many measures are being taken to prevent a possible disaster.

The University of Florida, for one, had a bright idea when it realized imposing such stringent attendance criteria could encourage infected kids to come to class. This semester, students do not have to show up to exams if they are sick. This is a good idea despite the fact many will take advantage of it (duh).

Among other preventative measure that seems like a good idea: The state of New York is offering free vaccines to its residents, and "Sesame Street" is doing a special about hand washing (and so is "Plaza Sesamo" in Mexico, which is the cutest thing we've ever heard).

The state of Massachusetts, however, is taking the idea of encouraging people to stay home and hygienic a little too far. Currently making its way through the state legislature is the Pandemic Response Bill. If passed, the bill will allow the governor to declare a health emergency and allow law enforcement officials to forcibly enter the homes of citizens and quarantine or vaccinate them.

Whether this bill is a response to Barack Obama's team's report is unclear. However, if it is, the Obama team needs to issue another report that takes the Centers for Disease Control's findings into consideration. The people at the CDC know what they're talking about, and if its slightly less abysmal view of the coming school year will allay American's fears, it should be made common knowledge.

After Hurricane Katrina, it makes sense that lawmakers and politicians want to prevent any sort of comparable disaster; no one wants to take the blame for unnecessary suffering or death. However, H1N1 is not the bubonic plague, and it shouldn't be treated as such. Blowing things out of proportion with exaggerated predictions or with possible bills involving storm troopers is as irresponsible as taking no preventative measures at all.

As Cillian Murphy's character in "28 Days Later" said, "See, this is a really shit idea. You know why? Because it's really obviously a shit idea." Sure, you can scare people into washing their hands. But you don't need to scare them with the threat of involuntary detainment and needle injection.

We know people who have had Swine Flu (former editorial board member, sort-of rhymes with "Bland Sicko"). Sure it was uncomfortable, and sure, they needed to stay indoors. But, to them, that was common sense.

Obama needs to allay the fears of Americans who are counting the days until the rapture by assuring them the death tolls will not be as high as his team initially reported. He also needs to redirect state lawmakers who feel as if they need to pass bills infringing on the basic rights of Americans in response to an imaginary threat.

Wash your hands, stay home when you're sick, see a doctor if you don't feel well. That's all you need to do to prevent Left4Dead from becoming your day-to-day. Warning people to stay safe is one thing, frightening them half to death is counterintuitive.

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